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County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

May 13, 2011

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

IMPLEMENTING THE COUNTYWIDE YOUTH SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACTION PLAN

On March 29, 2011, a motion by Mayor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to report back in 30 days on the structure by which it will monitor the implementation progress of the Countywide Youth Self-Sufficiency Action Plan. The plan details how eleven County departments and County-affiliated partners will work toward establishing youth self-sufficiency as a Countywide goal using existing resources to collaborate, form new partnerships, test pilot programs and activities, and make policy changes that will better prepare the youth we serve to become successful and thriving adults. This memo outlines the structure that has been established to ensure the plan's 55 actions are achieved while maintaining a child/youth-centered focus that will help youth achieve success in the four self-sufficiency goal areas of permanency/housing, social/emotional well-being, education, and career/workforce readiness.

An eighteen-member workgroup, consisting of representatives from the Chief Executive Office (CEO), Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Community and Senior Services (CSS), Department of Mental Health (DMH), Probation, Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), Community Development Commission (CDC), Commission for Children and Families, children's advocates, philanthropy, non-profit providers, caregivers and a former foster youth has been meeting since June 2010 to develop a conceptual framework for ensuring that youth served by DCFS and Probation, ages birth to 24, achieve self-sufficiency. This Self-Sufficiency Workgroup developed a structure to monitor the implementation of the Action Plan in an efficient manner that simultaneously promotes accountability, transparency, and continuity.

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Each Supervisor
May 13, 2011
Page 3

Implementation process to ensure it continues to align with and be integrated into the self-sufficiency plan.

We believe that this public/private collaborative effort will ensure that the actions approved by your Board in the Youth Self-Sufficiency Action Plan will be achieved and, as a result, the outcomes of our children and youth will improve. We will be updating your Board on our progress in July 2011, in our first quarterly report.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me, or your staff may contact Kathy House, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, at (213) 974-4530 or via e-mail at khouse@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:KH
CDM:HC:ljp

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Children and Family Services
Commission for Children and Families
Community Development Commission
Community and Senior Services
Office of Education
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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

August 19, 2011

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

Board of Supervisors
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Fifth District

IMPLEMENTING THE COUNTYWIDE YOUTH SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACTION PLAN

On March 29, 2011, a motion by Mayor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to implement the Countywide Youth Self-Sufficiency Action Plan and report back quarterly, for one year, on its progress. The action plan details how the participating County departments and County-affiliated partners will work toward establishing youth self-sufficiency as a Countywide goal, using existing resources, to form new partnerships, test pilot programs and activities, and make policy changes that will better prepare youth, ages birth to 24, served by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation) to become successful and thriving adults. On April 28, 2011, a memo was submitted to your Board outlining the structure that was established to ensure the plan's actions are achieved. This is the first quarterly update.

In the attached action plan (Attachment I), the progress made towards completing each of the now 57 actions is detailed. After submitting the original 55-point action plan to your Board for adoption on March 2, 2011, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) volunteered to join the self-sufficiency initiative, adding two actions that they would be held accountable for completing. This brings the total number of participating County departments and County-affiliated entities to 12.

Overall, most of the 57 actions outlined in the plan have either been completed or are well on their way to being completed by the November 1, 2011 deadline. Twelve (21 percent) of the actions have been achieved, 33 (58 percent) are on track for completion, and 10 (18 percent) are behind schedule, with four of these due to federal

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and state budget issues that impact them. Our office is working closely with the lead departments of the other six actions to facilitate their progress.

In two instances (three percent), lead departments have significantly exceeded expectations for completing one of the actions they were responsible for:

- DCFS committed to developing and implementing an electronic referral system in two regional offices for enrolling children that it supervises in early care and education programs (Action C7). This referral system was fully operational by June 2011 in all 18 DCFS regional offices, and over 900 3- and 4-year-old children have already been referred to Los Angeles County Office of Education Head Start preschool programs; and
- Probation committed to holding two employment/resource fairs for probation youth (Action J3) and, instead, was able to hold seven such fairs. Approximately 1,250 probation youth attended and, as a result, 25 youth have already been employed. This number is expected to grow, as hiring efforts are still underway.

Although efforts to complete the actions detailed in the self-sufficiency plan have been strong, for the most part, across all 12 participating departments, there are four departments that have shown particularly noteworthy dedication and effort towards achieving their specified actions:

- DCFS is the lead for ten actions, the most of any department, and is on track for completing seven of them, has already completed one, and has exceeded expectations on another;
- Probation is the lead for seven actions, and is on track for five of them, has already completed one, and has exceeded expectations on another;
- CDC is the lead for five actions and has already completed four of them; and
- DCA is the lead for two actions and, although it joined the initiative much later than other departments, it is already strongly on track for completing both.

Additionally, as a result of the work of the self-sufficiency workgroup, Mayor Antonovich introduced a motion on August 4, 2011 to the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) Board of Directors to develop a one-year pilot program that would provide no-cost EZ Transit passes, valid on all municipal and rail systems, to former DCFS and probation youth transitioning out of the County's system. This motion was unanimously

Each Supervisor
August 19, 2011
Page 3

adopted by the MTA Board, and the MTA and self-sufficiency workgroup will now begin work on designing the program components.

The self-sufficiency workgroup, consisting of 18 representatives from the CEO, DCFS, Community and Senior Services, Department of Mental Health, Probation, Department of Public Social Services, CDC, Commission for Children and Families, children's advocates, philanthropy, non-profit providers, caregivers and a former foster youth has been meeting since June 2010 to develop and monitor the implementation of the action plan in a way that simultaneously promotes accountability, transparency, and continuity. Additionally, 31 departmental point-persons have been actively working to achieve the actions identified in the self-sufficiency plan. As you can see, their work has been very successful. We will continue to monitor the progress of this action plan and provide you with a second quarterly report in October 2011.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me, or your staff may contact Trish Ploehn, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, at (213) 974-4532 or via e-mail at tploehn@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:TP
CDM:eb

Attachment

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 County Counsel
 Children and Family Services
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 Community Development Commission
 Community and Senior Services
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 Office of Education
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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

October 25, 2011

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor Gloria Molina
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Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

#5 of 3/29/11
next report
total set
1/31/12
Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
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MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
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IMPLEMENTING THE COUNTYWIDE YOUTH SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACTION PLAN

On March 29, 2011, a motion by Mayor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to implement the Countywide Youth Self-Sufficiency Action Plan and report back quarterly, for one year, on its progress. The action plan details how the participating County departments and County-affiliated partners will work toward establishing youth self-sufficiency as a Countywide goal, using existing resources, to form new partnerships, test pilot programs and activities, and make policy changes that will better prepare youth, ages birth to 24, served by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation) to become successful and thriving adults. On April 28, 2011, a memo was submitted to your Board outlining the structure that was established to ensure the plan's actions are achieved. The first quarterly update was submitted on August 19, 2011; this is the second quarterly report.

In the attached action plan (Attachment I), the progress made towards completing each of the 56 actions is detailed. After submitting the original 54-point action plan to your Board for adoption on March 2, 2011, the Department of Consumer Affairs volunteered to join the self-sufficiency initiative, adding two actions that they would be held accountable for completing. This brings the total number of participating County departments and County-affiliated entities to 12.

Overall, 96 percent of the 56 actions outlined in the plan have either been completed or are well on their way to being completed by the November 1, 2011 deadline. Twenty-three (41 percent) of the actions have been achieved, 31 (55 percent) are on track for completion, and two (four percent) are behind schedule, due to either a State budget issue or policy delay.

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In three instances (five percent), lead departments have significantly exceeded expectations for completing one of the actions they were responsible for:

- DCFS committed to developing and implementing an electronic referral system in two regional offices for enrolling children that it supervises in early care and education programs (Action C7). This referral system was fully operational by June 2011 in all 18 DCFS regional offices, and over 1,100 3- and 4-year-old children have been referred to Los Angeles County Office of Education Head Start preschool programs;
- The Department of Mental Health (DMH) committed to providing specialized training to foster and relative caregivers of DCFS or probation youth on various mental health-related issues (Action D6) and, as a result, implemented 1,150 specialized trainings for approximately 5,000 participants, most of whom were foster and relative caregivers; and
- Probation committed to holding two employment/resource fairs for probation youth (Action J3) and, instead, was able to hold 18 such fairs for approximately 2,118 probation youth.

Although efforts to complete the actions detailed in the self-sufficiency plan have been strong, for the most part, across all 12 participating departments, there are four departments that have shown particularly noteworthy dedication and effort towards achieving their specified actions:

- DCFS is the lead for ten actions, the most of any department, and is on track for completing seven of them, has already completed two, and has exceeded expectations on another;
- Probation is the lead for seven actions, and is on track for two of them, has already completed four, and has exceeded expectations on another;
- DMH is the lead for seven actions, and is on track for two of them, has completed four of them, and has exceeded expectations on another; and
- The Community Development Commission (CDC) is the lead for five actions and has already completed four of them.

Additionally, as a result of the work of the self-sufficiency workgroup, Mayor Antonovich introduced a motion on August 4, 2011 to the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) Board of Directors to develop a pilot program that would provide no-cost EZ Transit

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October 25, 2011
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passes, valid on all municipal and rail systems, to former DCFS and probation youth transitioning out of the County's system. This motion was unanimously adopted by the MTA Board, and the MTA and self-sufficiency workgroup have begun working on designing the program components. This program, targeted to begin July 1, 2012, would issue Transit Access Pass cards with photo identification to Independent Living Program eligible DCFS and probation youth, ages 18 – 21, over a 12-month period. A comprehensive analysis would be conducted to track the self-sufficiency outcomes achieved through this program.

The self-sufficiency workgroup, consisting of 18 representatives from the CEO, DCFS, Community and Senior Services, Department of Mental Health, Probation, Department of Public Social Services, CDC, Commission for Children and Families, children's advocates, philanthropy, non-profit providers, caregivers and a former foster youth has been meeting since June 2010 to develop and monitor the implementation of the action plan in a way that simultaneously promotes accountability, transparency, and continuity. Additionally, 31 departmental point-persons have been actively working to achieve the actions identified in the self-sufficiency plan. As you can see, their work has been very successful. We will continue to monitor the progress of this action plan and provide you with a third quarterly report in January 2012.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me, or your staff may contact Trish Ploehn, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, at (213) 974-4532 or via e-mail at tploehn@ceo.lacounty.gov.

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Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency

Progress Report Date: 10/24/11

ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED			
						AGES 0-5	AGES 6-11	AGES 12-17	AGES 18-21
forum to facilitate the development of partnerships between providers and service providers to increase the number of youth in transition-age housing for transition-age youth	CEO; DCFS; DMH; Probation	Lois Starr	Forum held; increased # of proposals submitted to CDC	3/31/2011	The CDC's Special Needs Housing Alliance Project Review Committee held 4 forums that formed 4 new service provider partnerships for TAY. As a result, two of the partnerships proposed creating 32 new permanent TAY housing units in mixed population development projects in Los Angeles (Koreatown) and San Fernando. Funding has been awarded; construction will begin by March 2012 and should be completed by Spring 2013. (Completed)			X	X
Office of Funds Availability (NOFA) that leverages federal grant Partnerships Program dollars in order to create opportunities for developing housing units for TAY	N/A	Lois Starr	NOFA for TAY housing units issued	2/28/2011	A NOFA was issued on 2/17/11. As a result, new TAY housing projects will be funded in West Hollywood and San Fernando, creating 22 additional permanent housing units. Construction is scheduled to begin by December 2011 for the West Hollywood project and by February 2012 for the San Fernando project. Both should be completed by May 2013. (Completed)			X	X
new projects that are currently in development that will create housing units for TAY as well as 200 new transitional shared-housing project with ten additional beds that can be provided	N/A	Lois Starr	# of permanent housing units created	11/1/2011	A total of 6 new projects are in development. Five permanent housing projects located in Los Angeles (Koreatown), East Los Angeles, and South Los Angeles will provide 40 permanent housing units for TAY. Estimated construction completion dates for the East Los Angeles and Koreatown projects are March and June of 2012, respectively. Two South Los Angeles projects are scheduled to be completed by August and December of 2011, and a third project in the area will be completed by August 2012. Additionally, a transitional housing project in downtown Los Angeles is also in development, which will provide 200 new transitional housing (shared-bedroom) units for TAY. (Completed)			X	X
	N/A	Lois Starr	# of transitional housing units created	11/1/2011				X	X
	N/A	Lois Starr	New 10-bed housing project created	11/1/2011	The Coteau III project for 10 beds is in development, located in South Whittier. Construction started in May 2011 and is scheduled to be completed by May 2012. (Completed)			X	X
the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to, in at need geographic area, conduct outreach to veterans who are youth and connect them to appropriate housing and support	DMH	Kayla Kilson	# of veterans who were former foster youth connected to services	11/1/2011	Obtained a commitment from HACO to add a question to all Section 8 and special program applications in order to identify veterans who were formerly in foster care, since this information is not currently collected. Additionally, the developer of a new permanent supportive housing project for veterans located in Inglewood will assess former foster youth status as part of their outreach and application processing procedures. (10/18/11)			X	X
SS as a focal point for the recruitment and referral of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Probation youth to service training and employment services	DCFS; Probation	Josie Marquez	# of DCFS/Probation youth referred to LACWIB workforce training and employment services by CSS	11/1/2011	Met with representatives from DCFS, Probation, DPSS, Parks and Recreation and Los Angeles County WIB employment subcontractors to identify single points of contact and coordinate an approach for increasing the participation of system youth in training/employment opportunities. Successfully initiated system youth referrals for the Summer Youth Employment Program in July 2011. Subsequently, developed a process flowchart to codify how the referral process for system youth will operate and reviewed it with collaborative partners on October 18, 2011. A RFP for the WIA youth employment services contract will be released during November 2011. (10/18/11)		X	X	X
the Workforce Investment Board's (WIBs) Youth Council to implement a policy that prioritizes and increases system youth in LACWIB Workforce Investment Act (WIA) employment	DCFS; LACOE; Probation	Richard Verches	# of system youth participating in LACWIB WIA services per policy	11/1/2011	Developed a new policy that directs CSS, through its contractors, to increase enrollment of system youth in Los Angeles County WIB/WIA Programs. The policy will be presented to the Los Angeles County WIB for adoption on November 17, 2011. Also working to integrate prioritization of system youth into the LACWIB's Youth Council's strategic plan for FY 2011-12. (9/27/11)			X	
partnerships with WIBs, County departments, universities, chambers of commerce and community agencies to recruitment, volunteer, internship and vocational opportunities for transition youth, based on their individual needs and interests	DCFS; LACOE; Probation	Josie Marquez/ Richard Verches	# of employment, volunteer, internship and vocational opportunities available to DCFS/Probation	11/1/2011	Planning to meet with representatives from local community colleges, including the Vice-President of Workforce for the Los Angeles Community College District to identify how system youth can be linked with academic and vocational training opportunities in local colleges. Working to identify additional partnerships for the Summer Youth Employment Program that may be extended to year-round employment opportunities once the Los Angeles County WIB approves the policy mentioned in activity B2. (9/27/11)			X	X
the number of DCFS and Probation youth participating in CSS' Employment Program and comparable programs	DCFS; Probation	Josie Marquez	# of DCFS/Probation youth participating in summer employment programs	11/1/2011	On June 28, 2011, the BOS approved the transfer of \$3.5 million to fund CSS' Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) for FY 2011-12. Currently, 2,349 youth have been placed in jobs through this program. Of these youth, 584 (25%) have identified themselves as being current or former system youth. Also, on July 1, 2011, CSS successfully obtained a waiver from the State to re-direct \$2 million of WIA funds to operate a CalWORKs SYEP targeting youth ages 14-21 receiving TANF. Currently, 962 youth have been placed in jobs through this program; it is unknown how many of these are former system youth. Obtained State permission to extend the CalWORKs SYEP until December 2011 in order to fully expend funding. (Completed)			X	
the Board of Supervisors to create a policy that earmarks a County-operated employment/internship opportunities for	CEO	Josie Marquez/ Richard Verches	Creation of policy	11/1/2011	Developing a policy statement prioritizing TAY for County employment and internship opportunities. Will be presented to the Los Angeles County WIB on November 17, 2011. (9/27/11)			X	X

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency

Progress Report Date: 10/24/11

ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED			
						AGES 0-5	AGES 6-11	AGES 12-17	AGES 18-21
more DCFS or Probation offices/units, ensure that integrated efforts (like permanency planning conferences or youth team meetings) incorporate the four self-sufficiency	CDC; CSS; DMH; LACOE; OCC; Probation	Michael Rauso	# of DCFS or Probation offices incorporating self-sufficiency goals in youth assessments/planning	7/31/2011	A policy was adopted in August 2010 to include the four self-sufficiency outcomes in DCFS' Permanency Planning Conferences (PPCs). A meeting with TDM facilitators is scheduled for November 1, 2011, to further operationalize how PPCs can incorporate self-sufficiency goals and outcomes. A subsequent specialized training for all PPC facilitators and DCFS Assistant Regional Administrators on how to integrate self-sufficiency goals into PPCs will take place on November 8, 2011. (10/3/11)	X	X	X	
self-sufficiency outcome areas in trainings where possible opportunities to incorporate into other Supervising Children's (SCSWs), Children's Social Workers (CSWs), new-hire caregiver trainings	CDC; CSS; DMH; LACOE; OCC	Mark Miller	# of SCSW, CSW, new-hire CSW and caregiver trainings held	11/1/2011	Working on incorporating self-sufficiency into DCFS' core practice model and strengths-based coaching model. Also integrating self-sufficiency outcomes into two additional trainings: a specialized "Enhanced Skills Based" training designed to support SCSWs and CSWs ongoing practice and performance goals and another training for CSWs on how to create quality TILPs. Additionally, working to determine how self-sufficiency can be effectively integrated into DCFS staff training on Katie A. training topics. (9/9/11)	X	X	X	
a number of DCFS Youth Permanency Units, subject to the Board of Supervisors; DCFS expects to request this in the Waiver request	N/A	Rhelda Randall-Shabazz	# of additional Youth Permanency Units established	11/1/2011	Shared key performance outcomes from the first and second Waiver requests with Board deputies on June 15, 2011. Request for the third sequence Waiver is before the Board of Supervisors to add 8 new Youth Permanency Units. (10/17/11)		X	X	
current housing programs offered by DCFS and use findings to programs requiring changes in scope, structure, service or other areas	CDC; CEO; DMH; Probation	Harvey Kawasaki	Revised DCFS TAY housing plan	11/1/2011	In partnership with the QDC, convened housing developers, service providers, LAHSA and collaborative County department representatives to develop an approach to support DCFS' redesign of its housing programs. DCFS is considering a recommendation to shift the responsibility of grant, property, and case management functions from YDS staff to housing experts within the community in order to ensure more efficient service delivery. (8/8/11)		X	X	X
request for Proposals (RFP) to implement Countywide an community-based service delivery life skills model that employs Advocates (TSAs) to train youth and caregivers to access, and utilize support services that promote self-	Probation	Harvey Kawasaki	# of Life Skills Self-Sufficiency contracts issued; # of youth and caregivers served	9/12/2011	A RFP was released on September 30, 2011. A bidders conference took place on October 11th and completed RFP applications are due November 15, 2011. (Completed)		X	X	X
nd expand the Gloria Molina Foster Youth Education other programs that provide ongoing support and monitoring imic progress	CEO	Michael Gray	# of new program sites	9/30/2011	The program has been expanded to 2 additional school districts in the San Gabriel Valley (Azusa and El Rancho Unified School Districts). (Completed)		X		
two DCFS regional offices, develop and implement an eral system to enroll children in early care and education	LACOE; OCC	Michael Gray	# of DCFS offices with an electronic referral system	6/30/2011	DCFS' Head Start electronic referral system became fully operational at the Glendora and Compton DCFS offices on May 24, 2011. After a successful pilot, the referral system was implemented Countywide across all 18 DCFS regional offices in June 2011. Since then, CSWs have referred over 1,100 3- and 4-year old DCFS children to LACOE Head Start for enrollment in a preschool program. (Completed)	X			
local system of accountability and compliance to ensure that nsational Independent Living Plans (TILPs) and 90-day ns are completed, in a timely manner, that address the self-comes for foster and probation youth exiting the system	CDC; CSS; DMH; DPSS; Probation	Diane Wagner	# of TILPs and 90-day Transition Plans completed in a timely manner that address self-sufficiency goals	11/1/2011	Received confirmation that the State will be revising CWS/CMS on February 18, 2012 in order to provide the ability to document and track TILP and 90-Transition Plan completion. 90-day Transition Plans will also be added as a case document to CWS/CMS. DCFS' Training Section is currently developing a training for CSWs on how to develop quality TILPs. Looking to add TILP outcomes as MAPP goals for managers. (9/29/11)		X	X	
ie feasibility of amending Group Home and Foster Family icts to incorporate the four self-sufficiency goals in guiding nly provided, including an analysis of any potential additional	CEO; Probation	Karen Richardson	Feasibility analysis of caregiver contract amendment	11/1/2011	Proposed Group Home and Foster Family Agency contract language reflecting self-sufficiency goals was drafted and submitted to DCFS' Acting Director on August 2nd and August 8, 2011, respectively. DCFS' Contracts Administration Division and County Counsel completed a review of the language. DCFS' Contracts Division has drafted the corresponding amendments and a corresponding Board letter that will be submitted to the CEO for review in the coming weeks. (9/23/11)	X	X	X	
oration with CSS, develop and implement a referral process to d former system youth, ages 14 and older, with internship, or employment opportunities	CSS; Probation	Harvey Kawasaki	# of current and former system youth referred by CSS	11/1/2011	On October 15, 2011 a referral system plan was developed between CSS and DCFS that connects foster youth with employment opportunities available through CSS' WIA subcontractors. The plan is targeted to begin by November 30, 2011, focusing first on TAY placed in DCFS/Probation housing programs. (10/18/11)		X	X	X

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency
Progress Report Date: 10/24/11

ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY						COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED				
											AGES 0-5	AGES 6-11	AGES 12-17	AGES 18-21	AGES 22-24
AY's use of outpatient mental health services by offering clinical settings and by using client advisory groups and tenders to effectively engage youth						DCFS; Library; Parks/Rec; Probation	Terri Boykins	Increased # of TAY using outpatient mental health services	11/1/2011	Client advisory groups have been initiated for the first time in the following three non-clinical agencies: My Friend's Place, Jeff Griffith Center and Los Angeles Youth Network. Groups have been modeled after the successful program implemented at Step Up on Second, an agency located in Santa Monica. Technical assistance will continue to be provided to these agencies and additional sites may be added in the coming months. (Completed)			X	X	
Specifically and delivery of a full range of substance abuse drop-in centers by piloting a new evidence-based model.						N/A	Terri Boykins	# and scope of substance abuse services delivered in each TAY drop-in center	11/1/2011	Identified 4 TAY drop-in centers willing to implement Seeking Safety for TAY ages 16-25 years old: My Friend's Place, Pacific Clinics Hope Center, Jeff Griffith Center and Daniel's Place. Work agreements were executed and a total of 15 agency staff attended training on how to implement the model in July 2011. Also trained a total of 12 DMH system navigators on the model so that they can support referrals and connections to this service. Implementation of Seeking Safety began in August 2011 across all 4 sites. Will expand the model to an additional 3 agencies (Traveler's Aid Society of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Youth Network, and People Assisting the Homeless) by fall of 2011. (Completed)			X	X	
DCFS, DMH and Probation juvenile camp staff on how to respond to, address, and manage youths' mental health						DCFS; Probation	Terri Boykins	# of cross-trainings held with DCFS, DMH and Probation staff	11/1/2011	DMH and Probation camp staff at Camp Gonzalez have been trained on how to access support services for youth leaving camp placement. In June 2011, a training on how to effectively engage youth in order to facilitate change was conducted for 20 hall/camp DPOs and mental health staff. Additionally, in October 2011, a training on mental health linkages, referrals and youth engagement took place at Camp Rockey for Probation, DCFS and DMH staff. (10/17/11)	X	X	X	X	
Use of aftercare mental health services by youth exiting through offering immediate linkages to mental health providing case management services for a period of three lease						Probation	Lori Willis	# of youth utilizing aftercare mental health services; # of youth receiving case management	1/1/2011	Obtained Board of Supervisors' approval on June 7, 2011 to hire 27 DMH staff to provide community-based aftercare services Countywide. Received approval from CEO Classification and Compensation section to proceed on June 23, 2011. Currently working with Probation staff to identify sites for DMH staff to deliver mental health services. Hiring is expected to be completed by fall of 2011. (10/18/11)			X	X	
mental health consultation and planning services to children, families through participation in initial assessments and Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings held at juvenile camps						Probation	Lori Willis	Participation of mental health staff in assessment and MDT meetings	1/1/2011	All youth in juvenile halls are screened prior to camp placement and all open mental health cases in camp are assessed by mental health staff. Primary mental health clinicians or DMH camp navigators are participating in all MDTs held at camps. Consultation and planning services will be enhanced as DMH aftercare staff are hired and trained. Probation is developing a tracking system to report the number of MDT meetings and participants. (Completed)		X	X	X	
Specialized training to foster and relative caregivers of DCFS youth on the importance of attachment, developmental and other mental health topics, as appropriate						DCFS; Probation	Sam Chan	# of specialized trainings offered to foster and relative caregivers	11/1/2011	Implemented 1,150 specialized trainings for approximately 5,000 participants, most of whom were foster and relative caregivers. Trainings were delivered through 17 local community college Foster & Kinship Care Education programs on topics including identifying depression and other mental health issues in children, parenting children with special needs, and appropriate early intervention strategies. Implemented a pre-service training on effective parenting strategies for approximately 300 prospective resource and/or adoptive parents. DCFS' Kinship Section trained 360 kinship caregivers on utilizing regional centers for eligible children/youth. DMH, DCFS and the LA Chancellor's Office are partnering on how to incorporate self-sufficiency into future trainings. (Completed)		X	X	X	
Specialized training to early care/education and mental health with young DCFS children on attachment, engagement, life-based approaches, and developmental milestones in order to provide support services for the Department of Parks and Recreation program, which promotes healthy personal, social and career development						DCFS; OCC	Sam Chan	# of trainings held	11/1/2011	Conducted approximately 120 trainings for over 2,000 mental health service providers, DCFS staff, and early care/education providers. Trainings topics included brain development, attachment and trauma, Strengthening Families' protective factors, and parenting strategies. Currently developing additional trainings targeting early care/education providers. (Completed)	X				
CSS; DCFS; LACOE; Library; Probation							Mika Yamamoto	# of partnerships created	7/30/2011	Partnered with seven organizations (El Camino College, St. Francis College, Boys and Girls Club, Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, County Library and a non-profit agency) to implement a career readiness/education conference for system youth and Youth Worker program applicants. (Completed)		X	X	X	
CSS; DCFS; LACOE; Library; Probation							Mika Yamamoto	# of enhanced Youth Worker programs implemented	11/1/2011	Implemented a career/workforce readiness and education conference for over 60 system youth between the ages of 14 to 18 in South Los Angeles at the Watts/Wilbrook Girls and Boys Club on October 15, 2011. Offered educational workshops, connections to employment resources, educational advising and exposed youth to motivational speakers. (Completed)			X	X	
one of the Department's service areas with high numbers of on youth, ages 14 and older, pilot an enhanced version of the program resulting from the partnerships created in Activity E1							Mika Yamamoto	After-school program held	7/30/2011	Working to implement a forum in Service Planning Area 6 on October 26, 2011. Developed a list of after-school program providers to invite to the event and an accompanying agenda. Issued a save-the-date notice and invitations. Currently collecting RSVPs for the forum. (10/17/11)		X	X	X	

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency
Progress Report Date: 10/24/11

ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED			
						AGES 0-5	AGES 6-11	AGES 12-17	AGES 18-21
Implement a referral protocol that connects the children of foster care participants who are under the supervision of DCFS with licensed early education programs	DCFS; OCC; Probation	Jackie Mizell-Burt/ Leticia Colchado	Referral protocol to connect CalWORKS/Cal-Learn participants with early education programs	11/1/2011	DPSS GAIN services workers are following a protocol for referring eligible participants to an appropriate Child Care Resource and Referral agency that provides participants with information about available licensed early care/education programs. Working with the Office of Child Care to incorporate into this referral protocol additional materials promoting the importance of child development. Also exploring how Adolescent Family Life Programs (AFLP) may be involved in promoting awareness about the value of early education among Cal-Learn participants. (7/14/11)	X			
Provide appropriate, current and former DCFS/Probation youth with later Avenues for Independence (GAIN) services to help economic stability	DCFS; Probation	Jackie Mizell-Burt/ Sherri Cheatham	# of current and former DCFS/Probation youth using CalWORKS/GAIN	11/1/2011	Working with DCFS and Probation to examine how the number of current and former system youth who are accessing CalWORKS/GAIN services can be identified, since this reporting capacity does not currently exist. Will also address how TAY can be proactively referred to CalWORKS/GAIN by DCFS and Probation to prevent gaps in economic solvency (7/14/11)		X	X	X
Help TAY obtain the economic support they are entitled to by utilizing Medi-Cal coverage for one year after exiting the system and the redetermination process, facilitating their CalFresh and connecting homeless TAY to the General Relief (GR) Housing program, customizing job preparation, and providing GR and criminal record expunging, transportation, SSI advocacy, assistance	DCFS; Probation	Isabelle Maggio/ Maria Del Valle	# of TAY accessing these services	11/1/2011	Initiated a General Relief (GR) restructuring pilot on June 27, 2011, to connect DCFS youth to all DPSS services they qualify for by conducting eligibility screenings prior to their exit. Pilot is being implemented in two DPSS offices (South Special and Pomona) and two DCFS offices (Pomona and Compton). CSWs have been trained on how to complete screenings and are currently screening youth 90 days prior to exit. DPSS developed an electronic application that will exchange information with Probation to facilitate receipt of Medi-Cal benefits for youth in juvenile camps. The Probation Department has hired a staff person to develop and test an interface that, when complete, will provide data on all youth in camps and juvenile halls. In the interim, as of September 2011, DPOs are manually inputting information and DPSS staff are processing referrals. Approximately 200 youth records have been received so far. (10/20/11)			X	X
Provide access to internships and skilled job opportunities for youth in GR/General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) and Initiated Program (SIP) process	CSS; DCFS; Probation	Maria Del Valle	# of TAY participating in internships/jobs through the GR/GROW SIP process	11/1/2011	Initiated a "Pathways to Success" job club designed to provide TAY participating in GROW with pre-employment training, career and education planning. This job club was implemented as a pilot at the Southwest Special GROW site. Services were expanded on October 11, 2011, to six additional offices (Lancaster, Metro East, San Gabriel, Metro Special, South Central and South Special). Services are prioritized for TAY who disclose they were former foster or probation youth. DPSS is working toward upgrading the computer system to identify GROW participants who were former system youth. Working to designate a job club specifically for GROW TAY in 2012. Also, adopted two new policies - one that gave GROW participants who were former system youth priority for referral to the 2011 Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), and another that prioritized these youth for participation in a GR restructuring pilot project implemented in June 2011. (10/24/11)			X	X
Be the central hub for providing educational information, support to all County departments working with system youth	CEO; CSS; DCFS; DMH; DPSS; Library; OCC; Parks/Rec; Probation	John Keane	Creation of centralized information and referral capacity; # of requests processed	11/1/2011	Submitted application for funding for FYs 2011-14 to the CA Department of Education (CDE) on May 27, 2011. Received funding from the CDE on October 15, 2011. Working to convene a meeting with key representatives from collaborative County departments to develop referral policies and procedures that establish FYS as a hub for centralized educational information. (10/19/11)	X	X	X	
Implement a case management pilot that co-locates Foster Youth staff in at least five DCFS or Probation regional offices to provide consultation services during multi-disciplinary team case meetings and help implement educational objectives	DCFS; Probation	John Keane	# of regional offices housing FYS staff; # of planning meetings including FYS staff	11/1/2011	The case management pilot was initiated in December 2010 in the following DCFS regional offices: Belvedere, Glendora, South County, San Fernando Valley (Chatsworth) and Vermont Corridor. A total of 5 FYS educational consultants provided case management services to approximately 70 youth and participated in MDJ meetings as needed. Working to expand the pilot to 2 additional DCFS regional offices (Palmdale and Torrance) and 2 Probation offices by fall 2011, once CDE funding is received. Planning to co-locate 7 FYS counselors at DCFS regional offices and 2 FYS counselors in Probation regional offices during FY 11-12. (Completed)		X	X	
Increase the capacity and use of FYS tutoring services and resources for numbers of system youth, ages 10-18, and evaluate the services on youth academic achievement	DCFS; Library; Probation	John Keane	# of system youth using FYS tutoring services; # with improved academic achievement	11/1/2011	During FY 2010-11, approximately 400 youth received FYS tutoring services. Proposed increasing the number of youth targeted for tutoring by at least 100 and expanding the age range of youth eligible for tutoring to youth between the ages of 4-21 as part of FYS application for renewed funding from the CDE. Selected the following 4 tutoring providers that will receive a one-year contract, starting in November 2011 through June 30, 2012: Educational Tutorial Services, Able Tutoring, Kameza, and Club Z. Funding for tutoring services was received October 15, 2011. Working to reinstate services by mid-November 2011. (10/18/11)		X	X	

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency

Progress Report Date: 10/24/11

ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED			
						AGES 0-5	AGES 6-11	AGES 12-17	AGES 18-21
Implement a hiring policy that gives priority to youth who apply for employment in the County Library	DCFS; Probation	Barbara Custen	Hiring policy developed; # of system youth serving in Page program	11/1/2011	Approved policy and selected the following regional County libraries where Pages will be employed: East Rancho Dominguez (in Compton), Hawthorne, Lancaster, San Gabriel and Live Oak Library (in West Covina). Twenty completed applications were sent to Library regional administrators on July 28, 2011. All applicants were interviewed and five youth were offered Page employment offers. As of September 2011, all 5 youth have begun working as Pages. (Completed)		X	X	
Develop volunteer internship opportunities for DCFS/Probation interested in volunteering their services, and match these management personnel who can serve as mentors/role models	DCFS; Probation	Barbara Custen	# of DCFS/Probation youth participating in library internship opportunities	11/1/2011	Working to implement a volunteer pilot for system youth in the following five County libraries: Westlake Library, Woodcrest Library, Hawaiian Gardens Library, Huntington Park Library and West Covina Library. Developed volunteer guidelines and an accompanying application process. Identified library personnel who will serve as supervisors and mentors for youth. Obtained approval from County Library executive management to begin recruiting system youth. Currently partnering with representatives from DCFS and the Probation Department to identify youth who are interested in becoming volunteers. Candidate interviews began the week of October 19th. (10/19/11)		X	X	
Communications plan that effectively markets the benefits of education and integrates Countywide efforts to increase the young DCFS children and the children of DCFS and Probation programs	CEO; DCFS; DMH; DPSS; LACOE; Parks/Rec; Probation	Kathy Malaske-Samu	Communications plan developed	11/1/2011	Developed a communication plan to promote the critical importance of children's first five years of life and how quality child development programs can help families support the optimal development of their children. The plan's targeted audience includes employees from various County departments (e.g. DCFS, DMH, DPH, DPSS, Parks and Recreation, and Probation), families receiving County services, and community partners. Created accompanying sample materials. Working to coordinate County employee focus groups to test materials and obtain feedback by the end of November 2011. Also, in partnership with Casey Family Programs and DCFS, planned a Countywide Early Learning Symposium that will be held on November 10, 2011 at the USC Davidson Conference Center. Invited multiple County departments, early education programs, and community agencies to the event to begin working towards achieving the communication plan's goals. (Completed)				X
Identify communities to the Steps To Excellence Project assesses and improves the quality of licensed early programs	N/A	Kathy Malaske-Samu	# of STEP pilot communities added during 2011	11/1/2011	Activity has been on hold due to budget cuts and delays in renewed funding. However, on October 17, 2011, received a contract from First 5 L.A./LAUP to fund STEP's operation and expansion to additional communities. Working to obtain Board of Supervisors' adoption of contract during the board meeting on November 8, 2011. STEP is scheduled to resume operations by the week of November 14, 2011. (10/19/11)				X
System and Probation youth who are teen parents enroll their development programs/services before they exit the system	DCFS; LACOE/LACEF; Probation	Kathy Malaske-Samu	# of system teen parents whose children are enrolled in child development programs	11/1/2011	Identified 289 parenting teens that are under the supervision of DCFS. Presented information on child development services, including case management strategies to help teens navigate child care systems, to approximately 60 staff from group homes. Also conducted presentations to group home staff working directly with pregnant and parenting system youth housed at three group homes (Mary's Shelter, Crittenton and St. Anne's) to promote enrollment in quality child development programs. Partnering with DCFS Pregnant and Parenting Teen Work Group to schedule additional presentations during DCFS regional offices' monthly staff meetings. Working with Probation Department staff to insert questions and information about enrolling children in early education programs into MDT meetings for parenting probation youth. Provided materials on child development programs to Children's Law Center for distribution to all Bench Officers. Also working to post resources on child development programs on DCFS' ILP Online and LAKids websites. (10/19/11)			X	
Develop a protocol for implementing multidisciplinary team children enrolled in licensed early education settings	DMH	Kathy Malaske-Samu	Protocol developed	11/1/2011	Determining the impact of State budget cuts on the supply of subsidized child care and on Resource and Referral (R&R) agencies. Working with DMH to convene a meeting with R&R representatives on October 28, 2011 to learn how these and possible "trigger" cuts will impact child care supply and identify strategies to engage child care programs in multidisciplinary team evaluations for children enrolled in licensed early education settings. (10/19/11)				X

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency
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ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED			
						AGES 0-5	AGES 6-11	AGES 12-17	AGES 18-21
the comprehensive assessments conducted on probation youth suitable placement address applicable self-sufficiency	DMH; LACOE	Dave Mitchell	# of youth assessed; # of youth with comprehensive case plan	11/1/2011	Developed MDT assessment protocol addressing the self-sufficiency outcome areas which was piloted at Rancho San Antonio Boys Home. Convened staff from all 55 placement providers to begin training them on the MDT assessment and corresponding case planning process in July 2011. A "train-the-trainer" meeting for all Probation Department managers is scheduled for October 24, 2011 and a MDT kick-off conference is scheduled for December 19, 2011 at the California Endowment for 180 probation staff and 120 providers. Also, by November 2011, will issue a solicitation for letters of interest to identify 4 additional Placement Assessment Center (PAC) operators. Currently, the 2 existing PACs (Boys Republic and Rancho San Antonio) implement MDT assessments and serve about 40% of eligible youth. Cross System Assessments, which also address self-sufficiency outcomes, are completed for the remaining 60% of placement youth until the PAC expansion occurs in January 2012. (Completed)		X	X	
DMH to determine what types of referral policies, services and partnerships are needed to improve youth's access to support services	DMH	Sharon Harada	List of necessary policies, strategies and partnerships	11/1/2011	DMH, in collaboration with Probation, has developed a Countywide Juvenile Justice Transition Aftercare Services Program that will include developing a mental health case plan in Transition MDTs, connecting youth to permanent mental health providers in the community for aftercare services, tracking this information in the youth's file, and better coordinating the family with mental health providers. Program to be implemented upon hiring and training staff. (9/9/11)		X	X	X
the CEO to hold at least two employment and resource fairs for probation youth to connect them to career training, jobs, health services, education, social services, and record services	CEO; CSS; DMH; DPSS; LACOE; Library; Parks/Rec	Sharon Harada	# of fairs held; # of youth trained or hired	11/1/2011	A total of 18 employment and resource fairs have been implemented in Monrovia/Duarte, Florence/Firestone, Pacoima and the Harbor Gateway area. Approximately 2,118 probation youth ages 13-24 attended and were connected to over 80 employers and 300 service providers. After the first job fairs were implemented, 25 youth were employed as a direct result. Calculating the additional number of probation youth employed. (Completed)		X	X	X
the Department's camp-to-community transition program by a robust family engagement component before youth are released by providing parents with the support they need to help their youth in the community and avoid reentry	CEO; CSS; DMH; LACOE	Sharon Harada	# of families engaged prior to release of youth from camp	11/1/2011	Using grant funding secured from the Department of Justice, the Gang Violence Reduction Initiative continues implementing a family engagement pilot targeting 130 families residing in the communities of Monrovia/Duarte, Florence/Firestone, Pacoima and the Harbor Gateway area. Approximately 65 families are currently receiving clinical services such as Functional Family Therapy and participating in trainings to help them support probation youth transitioning back to their communities. A Juvenile Re-Entry Council has been formed to continue developing additional family engagement strategies and integrating them into the Probation Department's transition planning. (10/12/11)		X		
housing, education, and career plans for suitable placement youth that, prior to leaving foster care, youth have a stable place to live in school/career preparation programs or are employed	CDC; CSS; LACOE	Dave Mitchell	# of youth in permanent housing, postsecondary programs, and/or employed	11/1/2011	Developed a process for holding an exit MDT meeting and a corresponding case plan that addresses the self-sufficiency outcome areas for all youth leaving group home care. Case-carrying DPOs and all 55 suitable placement providers have begun trainings on corresponding procedures as of July 2011, and approximately 300 Probation Department staff and providers will attend a MDT kick-off conference on December 19, 2011. Probation's YDS staff will continue completing exit MDTs for youth ages 17.9 or older and will incorporate the new protocol in their transition planning activities. (Completed)		X	X	
one additional court the Dual Status Project successfully implemented, which provides integrated assessments, case management to youth with concurrent open dependency cases	DCFS	Sharon Harada	# of additional youth served through project expansion	11/1/2011	Expanded the Dual Status Project to the Eastlake Juvenile Court, serving 3 DCFS offices. Efforts to continue expanding this project to juvenile courts in 5 additional locations (Compton, Inglewood, Kenyon, Long Beach, and Los Padrinos) are underway. Cross-training for DCFS and Probation staff serving youth at these additional courts concluded on October 17th and implementation will begin once the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Courts issues the order to do so. (Completed)			X	
to implement in five probation camps an integrated cognitive treatment model to improve the overall social and emotional well-being of youth	DMH	Felicia Cotton	# of incidents reported at pilot sites pre-ITM vs. post-ITM implementation	11/1/2011	Implemented the Integrated Treatment Model (ITM) at four juvenile camps (Ontzuka, Rockey, Scott and Scudder) and at one closed placement facility (Dorothy Kirby Center) as of August 2011. Youth have successfully completed a 10-week treatment cycle, and youth counsels have been established at each site to offer youth opportunities to practice newly learned social and leadership skills. Co-facilitated focus groups that provide support for DMH and Probation staff implementing the ITM and also reinforce treatment fidelity are also underway at each site. (Completed)		X	X	

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency
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ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED				
						AGES 0-5	AGES 6-11	AGES 12-17	AGES 18-21	AGES 22-24
Identified qualified families of DCFS and/or Probation who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless to the Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) in order to support and improve their ability to be reunified with their families.	CEO/DCFS/Probation	Rhonda Johnson	# of homeless and at-risk families connected to HPRP	11/1/2011	All HPRP funds have been committed and there is no capacity to serve additional families. The Family Unification Program (FUP), administered by DCFS Family Preservation Unit and HACA/LA, is a comparable program for families with inadequate housing that is a primary factor causing either the separation or imminent separation of their children from their care (or is delaying the discharge of their children from out-of-home care). HACA/LA has begun sending a weekly report to DCFS reflecting the current number of FUP vouchers available to help keep efforts coordinated. DCFS has identified approximately 36 families that are on the Mason Court housing waitlist that will be targeted for FUP and will schedule presentations at DCFS regional offices to recruit additional applicants. DCFS and the CEO will continue to explore additional strategies that can be used to increase the number of families using FUP vouchers. (10/18/11)			X	X	
Homeless Prevention Initiative, issue and administer an application for TAY or TAY at risk of becoming homeless in Districts 1 and 5	CDC, CEO	Beth Stokes/ Helen Lee	Performance-based RFP issued	3/31/2011	Released the RFP on May 27, 2011 and 12 proposals were received. Initially conducted a threshold review of all proposals to ensure submissions were complete. Subsequently, a team of reviewers read and scored all qualified proposals using quality criteria from a scoring matrix. Contracts with the two agencies selected through this process, First Place for Youth and Pacific Clinics, are on track to be executed during the week of October 24th with a start date of November 1, 2011 and will run for two years. A total of 50 TAY who are homeless or are at risk of being homeless will obtain permanent housing through this RFP. (10/17/11)			X	X	
Best-practice housing models in other jurisdictions for TAY and use practices into local program design elements	CEO	Rhonda Johnson	Incorporation of best practices in LAHSA RFPs	11/1/2011	Completed a review of 6 TAY housing models located in California, Illinois, New York and Washington. Identified best practices relevant to the following program components: housing type, staff-to-client ratio, approach to permanent housing placement and employment support services. Additionally, the Child Welfare Initiative (CWI) has identified the following best practice components for TAY: developing a comprehensive individualized Service Plan; creating a safety net; and providing services focused on achievable outcomes. Development of the next LAHSA RFP for TAY that will be released, the Independent Living Program RFP, will begin in 2012. Best practices identified by LAHSA and the CWI will be incorporated into that RFP and will also be incentivized as part of the proposal quality review and scoring process. (10/12/11)			X	X	
Work with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles to identify the support services that are either in their pipeline or are currently operational in housing developments	CEO	Lisa Snyder	Inventory of support services in HACA/LA TAY housing projects	11/1/2011	Designed a framework for the inventory, which includes a description of support services, the number of youth served, distribution of homeless beds in comparison to the homeless youth population by supervisory district, and youth outcomes. Completed the inventory of all LAHSA-funded projects that currently serve TAY, which consist of 7 emergency housing shelters, 25 transitional housing projects and 1 permanent supportive housing project. Also included in the inventory HACA/LA's 2 permanent supportive housing projects that are fully operational. Finalizing a list of permanent supportive housing projects for TAY funded by LAHSA and/or HACA that are in development. (10/18/11)			X	X	
Use credit reporting agencies to check the credit history of all TAY on their 16th birthday and resolve identity theft problems for those who are identified as victims	DCFS	Kirk Shelton	# of youth whose identity theft problems were resolved	11/1/2011	Submitted names of 2,110 foster youth from DCFS to credit reporting agencies. Partnered with the California Office of Privacy Protection to fix inaccurate information and resolve identity theft issues by contacting creditors and collection agencies. Successfully identified and resolved identity theft issues for 104 foster youth. Will complete another credit history check for a new cohort of foster and probation youth during FY 2011-12. (Completed)		X	X		
Develop procedure with DCFS and Probation to identify TAY that are at risk of homelessness from attending DCA consumer presentations specifically on issues such as landlord/tenant issues, identity theft, leases, contracts and other consumer issues	DCFS, Probation	Kirk Shelton	Creation of a process for referring youth	11/1/2011	Held one pilot workshop for TAY on identity theft and consumer issues in June 2011. Working to launch a series of consumer education workshops beginning in late fall of 2011. Collaborative departments are currently identifying appropriate venues and youth who will participate in the first upcoming workshop. (8/9/11)		X	X		



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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

January 31, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEY YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

IMPLEMENTING THE COUNTYWIDE YOUTH SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACTION PLAN

On March 29, 2011, a motion by Mayor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to implement the Countywide Youth Self-Sufficiency Action Plan and report back quarterly, for one year, on its progress. The action plan details how the participating County departments and County-affiliated partners will work toward establishing youth self-sufficiency as a Countywide goal, using existing resources, to form new partnerships, test pilot programs and activities, and make policy changes that will better prepare youth, ages birth to 24, served by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation) to become successful and thriving adults. On April 28, 2011, a memo was submitted to your Board outlining the structure that was established to ensure the plan's actions are achieved. Quarterly updates were submitted on August 19, 2011 and October 24, 2011; this is the third quarterly report.

In the attached action plan (Attachment I), the activities achieved for each of the 56 actions is detailed. After submitting the original 54-point action plan to your Board for adoption on March 2, 2011, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) volunteered to join the self-sufficiency initiative, adding two actions that they would be held accountable for completing. This brings the total number of participating County departments and County-affiliated entities to 12.

To date, all 56 actions outlined in the plan have been completed. Some of the highlights across the four self-sufficiency outcome areas include:

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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Permanency/Housing

- The Community Development Commission (CDC) ensured that an additional 200 new transitional housing (shared-bedroom) units for TAY in downtown Los Angeles are in development;
- The Los Angeles Housing Services Authority (LAHSA) awarded contracts to two permanent supportive housing providers that created an additional 80 beds for former DCFS or Probation youth who are either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless; and
- The DCA ran credit checks on more than 2,100 DCFS youth and successfully identified and resolved identity theft issues for 104 of them. A dedicated direct telephone line to a DCA investigator has been established for DCFS and Probation youth and staff.

Education

- DCFS expanded its First Supervisorial District education program to two additional school districts, and is expanding it to all five Supervisorial Districts in Fiscal Year 2012-13;
- DCFS created an electronic referral system for eligible children to Head Start programs across all 18 of its offices, referring over 1,100 three and four-year olds to date;
- The Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks) secured commitments from 11 public and private afterschool service providers to increase the number of DCFS and Probation youth enrolled in their programs;
- Los Angeles County Office of Education's Foster Youth Services increased the tutoring services it provides through its contractors to serve, at a minimum, an additional 100 youth, and expand the age range of eligible youth to ages four to 21; and
- The Office of Child Care (OCC) identified 289 parenting system youth and provided information on child development services to group home staff, non-profit providers, DCFS regional administrators, and Probation staff working with them to promote enrollment in child development programs for their children before they exit care.

Career/Workforce Readiness

- Community and Senior Services (CSS) worked with the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board to adopt a policy that prioritizes DCFS and Probation youth for their employment services and earmarks a minimum of 200 slots for them, representing a 33 percent increase in the number of system youth who will be served by these programs; and
- The Public Library implemented a volunteer program for DCFS and Probation youth that pairs them up with mentors among library staff and provides them with meaningful work/volunteer experience.

Social and Emotional Well-being

- The Department of Mental Health (DMH) hired 27 staff to provide Countywide community-based aftercare services to youth exiting juvenile camps;
- The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) implemented a pilot screening process that connects DCFS youth to all DPSS services they are eligible for;
- DPSS developed an electronic process for issuing Medi-Cal benefits to youth exiting probation camps so that these benefits are automatically restored upon their release;
- Probation will now hold multidisciplinary team meetings and develop case plans addressing the four self-sufficiency outcome areas for all youth exiting group homes; and
- Probation implemented an Integrated Treatment Model at four juvenile camps and one juvenile hall that promotes social and leadership skills through a 10-week treatment module and created youth councils at each of these sites.

As you can see, within their existing resources, these 12 departments and County affiliated agencies have made significant strides in creating the kinds of partnerships and environments necessary to help system youth ultimately achieve self-sufficiency.

The self-sufficiency workgroup, consisting of 18 representatives from the CEO, DCFS, CSS, DMH, Probation, DPSS, CDC, Commission for Children and Families, children's advocates, philanthropy, non-profit providers, caregivers and a former foster youth has been meeting since June 2010 to develop and monitor the implementation of the action plan in a way that simultaneously promotes accountability, transparency, and continuity.

Each Supervisor
January 31, 2012
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Additionally, 31 departmental point-persons have been actively working to achieve the actions identified in the self-sufficiency plan. With the action plan now completed, this workgroup is focusing on how to create a structure that institutionalizes these partnerships, meaningfully incorporates community partners, and further establishes the type of culture and environment needed to support self-sufficiency. The next quarterly report will be submitted to your Board in April 2012.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me, or your staff may contact Trish Ploehn, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, at (213) 974-4532 or via e-mail at tploehn@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:TP
CDM:yw

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 County Counsel
 Children and Family Services
 Commission for Children and Families
 Community Development Commission
 Community and Senior Services
 Consumer Affairs
 Office of Education
 Mental Health
 Office of Child Care
 Parks and Recreation
 Probation
 Public Library
 Public Social Services



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

August 31, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

IMPLEMENTING THE COUNTYWIDE YOUTH SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACTION PLAN

On March 29, 2011, a motion by Mayor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to implement the Countywide Youth Self-Sufficiency Action Plan and report back quarterly, for one year, on its progress. The action plan detailed how the participating County departments and County-affiliated partners would work towards establishing youth self-sufficiency as a Countywide goal, using existing resources, to form new partnerships, test pilot programs and activities, and make policy changes that would better prepare youth, ages birth to 24, served by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation) to become successful and thriving adults. On April 28, 2011, a memo was submitted to the Board outlining the structure that was established to ensure the plan's actions were achieved. Quarterly updates were submitted on August, 19, 2011, October 24, 2011, and January 31, 2012; this is the final report.

Action Plan Highlights

All 56 actions outlined in the action plan have been completed (Attachment I). Some of the highlights across the four self-sufficiency outcome areas include:

Permanency/Housing

- The Community Development Commission (CDC) ensured that an additional 200 new transitional housing (shared-bedroom) units for transition-aged youth (TAY) in downtown Los Angeles are in development.

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- The Los Angeles Housing Services Authority (LAHSA) awarded contracts to two permanent supportive housing providers that created an additional 80 beds for former DCFS or probation youth who are either homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless.
- The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) conducted credit checks on more than 2,100 DCFS youth and successfully identified and resolved identity theft issues for over 100 DCFS youth. A dedicated direct telephone line to a DCA investigator was established for DCFS and probation youth and staff.

Education

- DCFS expanded its Foster Youth Education Program (FYEP) to two additional school districts, and is expanding it to all five Supervisorial Districts in the upcoming school year. Last year, 275 DCFS youth were served by this program. The expansion will bring 16 new schools into the program across four school districts (Los Angeles Unified School District, Long Beach Unified School District, Compton Unified School District, and Antelope Valley Joint Union High School District) and is expected to serve an additional 400 DCFS youth. The program expansion will also extend academic remediation services to approximately 150 probation youth.
- DCFS created an electronic system across all 18 of its offices for referring eligible children to Head Start programs; to date, over 1,100 three and four year olds have been referred.
- The Department of Parks and Recreation secured commitments from 11 public and private afterschool service providers to increase the number of DCFS and probation youth enrolled in their programs.
- Los Angeles County Office of Education's Foster Youth Services increased the tutoring services it provides through its contractors to serve, at a minimum, an additional 100 youth, and expand the age range of eligible youth to ages 4 – 21.
- The Office of Child Care identified 289 parenting DCFS and probation youth and provided information on child development services to group home staff, non-profit providers, DCFS regional administrators, and Probation staff who work with them to promote enrollment for their children in child development programs before they exit care.

Career/Workforce Readiness

- Community and Senior Services (CSS) served 318 DCFS youth and 287 probation youth in their summer youth employment program.
- CSS worked with the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board to adopt a policy that prioritizes DCFS and probation youth for their employment services and earmarks a minimum of 300 slots for them; this represents a 50 percent increase in the number of system youth served by these programs. CSS is in the process of determining eligibility for and enrolling DCFS and probation youth in this recently launched program.
- The Public Library implemented a volunteer program for DCFS and probation youth that pairs them with staff mentors and provides them with meaningful work/volunteer experience.
- The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) is piloting a one-year program, which began in July 2012, to provide 2,000 Transit Access Passes to former DCFS and probation youth who are over the age of 18. To date, over 400 passes have been issued, with another 200 cards being processed.

Social and Emotional Well-being

- The Department of Mental Health (DMH) hired 27 staff to provide Countywide community-based aftercare services to youth exiting juvenile camps.
- The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) implemented a pilot screening process at DCFS' Pomona and Compton offices that connects DCFS youth to all DPSS services for which they are eligible. A review of the pilot outcomes is currently underway; in September 2012, DCFS and DPSS will determine what pilot modifications are needed and discuss potential expansion plans.
- DPSS developed a process for issuing Medi-Cal benefits to all youth exiting probation camps so that these benefits are automatically restored upon their release. An electronic interface is currently being developed which will streamline this process and expand it to youth exiting probation halls.
- Probation is now holding multidisciplinary team meetings and developing case plans addressing the four self-sufficiency outcome areas for all youth exiting group homes.

- Probation implemented an Integrated Treatment Model at four juvenile camps and one juvenile hall that promotes social and leadership skills through a 10-week treatment module, and created youth councils at each of these sites. Since implementation, the number of youth who have required enhanced supervision due to self-injurious behavior has decreased by 50 percent, from 54 to 27.

As you can see, these 12 departments and County-affiliated agencies, within their existing resources, have made significant strides in creating the kinds of partnerships and environments necessary to help system youth ultimately achieve self-sufficiency.

Youth Development Services Redesign

It is widely understood that a siloed approach to service delivery does not achieve the same level of success as an integrated model at the ground level. As such, the Youth Development Services (YDS) Division of DCFS and Probation have struggled to integrate its services into the work of line staff, resulting in only a fragmented support system for TAY.

As part of the Youth Self-Sufficiency Initiative, DCFS and Probation are considering various options for fully integrating YDS services within their regional offices. This integration would provide additional support to line staff and better align YDS with extended foster care services which are already offered in the regional offices. A survey has been released to current TAY served by YDS to determine how they prefer receiving services and communicating with staff; this information will be used to guide a self-sufficiency YDS redesign workgroup, which has been created to make recommendations on the various options. DCFS is also pursuing the idea of transferring the YDS transitional housing contracts and their management to LAHSA.

Additional self-sufficiency workgroups that have been created include: housing/permanency, Independent Living Program budget, MTA pilot program, and AB 12. These workgroups, chaired by departmental representatives and consisting of subject matter experts, will meet as often as needed. Breaking the work into these smaller groups will keep it focused on achieving clear deliverables and targets.

The larger self-sufficiency committee, which has provided oversight to this initiative since its inception, will continue to meet quarterly and receive reports from these workgroups at its meetings. This will promote continuity and coordination across the workgroups to ensure that their work aligns with the four outcome areas and complements each other. This 18-member committee currently consists of representatives from the CEO, DCFS, CSS, DMH, Probation, DPSS, CDC, Commission

for Children and Families, children's advocates, philanthropy, non-profit providers, caregivers and a former foster youth. As this initiative moves forward, it will reconstitute itself, as needed, to make certain it includes the members it needs to be most effective.

Oversight

As mentioned above, the reconstituted self-sufficiency committee will continue to meet quarterly to provide oversight for this initiative. As youth self-sufficiency becomes more embedded in the fabric of the appropriate departments, this committee will phase itself out.

This Fiscal Year 2012-13, the committee will focus on defining self-sufficiency and clearly articulating the expected outcomes. This will include activities such as defining measures of success for this initiative and what we can expect to see differently in the outcomes for these youth in one, five, ten and fifteen years. To track these outcomes, regular and ongoing evaluations will need to occur. There are some mechanisms already in place to track many indicators of success through the National Youth in Transition Database being implemented in DCFS and Probation and the Quality Services Review occurring as a result of Katie A. To support this outcome tracking, it will be important to continue the development of cross-departmental data-sharing and ensuring the availability of reliable data to improve service quality.

This is the final quarterly report. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Trish Ploehn at (213) 974-4532 or via e-mail at tploehn@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:AJ:TP
CDM:eb

Attachment

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 County Counsel
 Children and Family Services
 Commission for Children and Families
 Community Development Commission
 Community and Senior Services
 Consumer Affairs
 Office of Education
 Mental Health
 Office of Child Care

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August 31, 2012
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Parks and Recreation
Probation
Public Library
Public Social Services
Self-Sufficiency Committee

Implementing Youth Self-Sufficiency Action Plan Board Memo_August 2012

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency
Progress Report Date: 1/20/12

Attachment I

LEAD DEPT/ AGENCY	PERMANENCY/ HOUSING SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING EDUCATION CAREER/WORKFORCE READINESS					COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	AGES 0-5 AGES 6-11 AGES 12-17 AGES 18-21 AGES 22-24				
	SELF-SUFFICIENCY OUTCOME AREAS										CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED				
(A) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (CDC)	X				A1) Convene a forum to facilitate the development of partnerships between housing developers and service providers to increase the number of proposals submitted to CDC for service-enriched housing for transition-age youth (TAY)	CEO; DCFS; DMH; Probation	Lois Starr	Forum held; increased # of proposals submitted to CDC	3/31/11	The CDC's Special Needs Housing Alliance Project Review Committee held four forums that formed four new service provider partnerships for TAY. As a result, two of the partnerships proposed creating 32 new permanent TAY housing units in mixed population development projects in Los Angeles (Koreatown) and San Fernando. Funding has been awarded; construction will begin by March 2012 and should be completed by Spring 2013. (Completed)				X	X
	X				A2) Issue a Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) that leverages federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program dollars in order to create additional opportunities for developing housing units for TAY	N/A	Lois Starr	NOFA for TAY housing units issued	2/28/11	A NOFA was issued on 2/17/11. As a result, new TAY housing projects will be funded in West Hollywood and San Fernando, creating 22 additional permanent housing units. Construction is scheduled to begin by December 2011 for the West Hollywood project and by February 2012 for the San Fernando project. Both should be completed by May 2013. (Completed)				X	X
	X				A3) Fund four new projects that are currently in development that will create 28 permanent housing units for TAY as well as 200 new transitional shared-bedroom units	N/A	Lois Starr	# of permanent housing units created	11/1/11	A total of six new projects are in development. Five permanent housing projects located in Los Angeles (Koreatown), East Los Angeles, and South Los Angeles will provide 40 permanent housing units for TAY. Estimated construction completion dates for the East Los Angeles and Koreatown projects are March and June of 2012, respectively. Two South Los Angeles projects are scheduled to be completed by August and December of 2011, and a third project in the area will be completed by August 2012. Additionally, a transitional housing project in downtown Los Angeles is also in development, which will provide 200 new transitional housing (shared-bedroom) units for TAY. (Completed)				X	X
						N/A	Lois Starr	# of transitional housing units created	11/1/11					X	X
	X					A4) Develop a new housing project with 10 additional beds that can be leased to a current provider	N/A	Lois Starr	New 10-bed housing project created	11/1/11	The Coteau III project for 10 beds is in development, located in South Whittier. Construction started in May 2011 and is scheduled to be completed by May 2012. (Completed)				X
X					A5) Partner with the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to, in at least one high-need geographic area, conduct outreach to veterans who are former foster youth and connect them to appropriate housing and support services	DMH	Kayla Kitson	# of veterans who were former foster youth connected to services	11/1/11	Obtained a commitment from HACoLA to add a question to all Section 8 and special program applications in order to identify veterans who were formerly in foster care, since this information is not currently collected. Additionally, the developer of a new permanent supportive housing project for veterans in Inglewood will assess former foster youth status as part of their outreach and application processing procedures. (Completed)				X	X
(B) COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES (CSS)				X	B1) Establish CSS as a focal point for the recruitment and referral of Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Probation youth to LACWIB workforce training and employment services	DCFS; Probation	Josie Marquez	# of DCFS/ Probation youth referred to LACWIB workforce training and employment services by CSS	11/1/11	Met with representatives from DCFS, Probation, DPSS, Parks and Recreation and LACWIB employment subcontractors to identify single points of contact and coordinate an approach for increasing the participation of system youth in training/employment opportunities. Successfully initiated system youth referrals for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) in July 2011. Subsequently, developed a process flowchart to codify how the referral process for system youth will operate and reviewed it with collaborative partners on October 18, 2011. (Completed)			X	X	X
	X	X	X		B2) Work with the Workforce Investment Board's (WIBs) Youth Council to develop and implement a policy that prioritizes and increases system youths' enrollment in LACWIB Workforce Investment Act (WIA) employment services	DCFS; LACOE; Probation	Richard Verches	# of system youth participating in LACWIB WIA services per policy	11/1/11	Developed a policy that requires CSS WIA Formula Adult and Youth contractors to set aside slots to serve at least 200 youth referred by DCFS and Probation (which represents a 33% increase in the number of system youth that have, on average, been served annually). The policy was adopted by the LACWIB on November 17, 2011 and will be effective through FY 2012-13. (Completed)				X	
	X	X	X		B3) Enhance partnerships with WIBs, County departments, universities, municipalities, chambers of commerce and community agencies to maximize employment, volunteer, internship and vocational opportunities for DCFS and Probation youth, based on their individual needs and interests	DCFS; LACOE; Probation	Josie Marquez/ Richard Verches	# of employment, volunteer, internship and vocational opportunities available to DCFS/ Probation youth	11/1/11	Surveyed WorkSource centers to identify the training needs of system youth participating in their employment programs. Subsequently, scheduled a meeting with representatives from local community colleges, including the Vice-President of Workforce for the Los Angeles Community College District, to link system youth with short-term occupational training opportunities offered by local colleges. Also created an additional placement site partnership with a community-based organization for the FY 10-11 SYEP. (Completed)			X	X	X
				X	B4) Increase the number of DCFS and Probation youth participating in CSS' Summer Youth Employment Program and comparable programs	DCFS; Probation	Josie Marquez	# of DCFS/Probation youth participating in summer employment programs	11/1/11	On June 28, 2011, the BOS approved the transfer of \$3.5 million to fund CSS' SYEP for FY 2011-12. Currently, 2,538 youth have been placed in jobs through this program. Of these youth, 605 (24%) have identified themselves as being current or former system youth. Also, on July 1, 2011, CSS successfully obtained a waiver from the State to re-direct \$2 million of WIA funds to operate a CalWORKs SYEP targeting youth ages 14-21 receiving TANF. Currently, 1,059 youth have been placed in jobs through this program; it is unknown how many of these are former system youth. Obtained State permission to extend the CalWORKs SYEP until December 2011 in order to fully expend funding. (Completed)			X		
				X	B5) Work with the Board of Supervisors to create a policy that earmarks a percentage of County-operated employment/internship opportunities for TAY	CEO	Josie Marquez/ Richard Verches	Creation of policy	11/1/11	Obtained approval from the LACWIB on November 17, 2011, to implement a policy that prioritizes TAY for County employment and internship opportunities. Working with the Department of Human Resources, DCFS, Probation and other County departments named in the policy to create procedures and begin recruiting youth. (Completed)			X	X	X

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency

Progress Report Date: 1/20/12

LEAD DEPT/ AGENCY	PERMANENCY HOUSING SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING EDUCATION CAREER/WORKFORCE READINESS					COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	AGES 0-5 AGES 6-11 AGES 12-17 AGES 18-21 AGES 22-24				
	SELF-SUFFICIENCY OUTCOME AREAS										ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY				
(C) DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES (DCFS)	X	X	X	X	C1) In one or more DCFS or Probation offices/units, ensure that integrated case planning efforts (like permanency planning conferences or multidisciplinary team meetings) incorporate the four self-sufficiency outcomes	CDC; CSS; DMH; LACOE; OCC; Probation	Michael Rauso	# of DCFS or Probation offices incorporating self-sufficiency goals in youth assessments/planning	7/31/11	A policy was adopted in August 2010 to include the four self-sufficiency outcomes in DCFS' Permanency Planning Conferences (PPCs). DCFS Assistant Regional Administrators were trained on November 1, 2011, on how self-sufficiency outcomes are relevant and can be incorporated into case planning. A subsequent specialized training for all PPC facilitators took place on November 8, 2011, to further operationalize how PPCs can incorporate self-sufficiency goals and outcomes. (Completed)	X	X	X	X	
	X	X	X	X	C2) Include the self-sufficiency outcome areas in trainings where possible and look for opportunities to incorporate into other Supervising Children's Social Workers (SCSWs), Children's Social Workers (CSWs), new-hire CSWs and caregiver trainings	CDC; CSS; DMH; LACOE; OCC	Mark Miller	# of SCSW, CSW, new-hire CSW and caregiver trainings held	11/1/11	Completed integrating self-sufficiency into a specialized "Enhanced Skills Based Training" that is designed to support SCSWs' and CSWs' practice and performance goals. A total of 750 DCFS staff will attend this mandatory training, which will be delivered to approximately 18 cohorts as of November 15, 2011 through June 27, 2012. Also, incorporated self-sufficiency into another newly developed training for CSWs on how to create quality Transitional Independent Living Plans and into DCFS' core practice model. (Completed)	X	X	X	X	
	X	X	X	X	C3) Expand the number of DCFS Youth Permanency Units, subject to approval from the Board of Supervisors; DCFS expects to request this in the third sequence Waiver request	N/A	Rhelda Randall-Shabazz	# of additional Youth Permanency Units established	11/1/11	Shared key performance outcomes from the first and second Waiver requests with Board deputies on June 15, 2011. Request for the third sequence Waiver was approved by the Board of Supervisors on December 6, 2011 to add 17 Permanency Partner Program (P3) workers. (Completed)			X	X	
	X				C4) Analyze current housing programs offered by DCFS and use findings to redesign any programs requiring changes in scope, structure, service delivery, funding or other areas	CDC; CEO; DMH; Probation	Harvey Kawasaki	Revised DCFS TAY housing plan	11/1/11	In partnership with the CDC, convened housing developers, service providers, LAHSA and collaborative County department representatives to develop an approach to support DCFS' redesign of its housing programs. DCFS is pursuing shifting the responsibility of grant, property, and case management functions from YDS staff to housing experts within the community in order to ensure more efficient service delivery. (8/8/11) (Completed)			X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	C5) Issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to implement Countywide an innovative community-based service delivery life skills model that employs Transition Skills Advocates (TSAs) to train youth and caregivers to advocate for, access, and utilize support services that promote self-sufficiency	Probation	Harvey Kawasaki	# of Life Skills Self-Sufficiency contracts issued; # of youth and caregivers served by TSAs	9/1/11	A RFP was released on September 30, 2011. A bidders conference took place on October 11th and RFP applications were submitted in November. (Completed)			X	X	X
		X	X	X	C6) Promote and expand the Foster Youth Education Program and other that provide ongoing support and monitoring of youth academic progress	CEO	Michael Gray	# of new program sites	9/30/11	The program has been expanded to 2 additional school districts in the San Gabriel Valley (Azusa and El Rancho Unified School Districts) and is being expanded to all five Supervisorial Districts in FY 2012-13. (Completed)			X		
	X	X	X	X	C7) In at least two DCFS regional offices, develop and implement an electronic referral system to enroll children in early care and education programs	LACOE; OCC	Michael Gray	# of DCFS offices with an electronic referral system	6/30/11	DCFS' Head Start electronic referral system became fully operational at the Glendora and Compton DCFS offices on May 24, 2011. After a successful pilot, the referral system was implemented Countywide across all 18 DCFS regional offices in June 2011. Since then, CSWs have referred over 1,100 3- and 4-year old DCFS children to LACOE Head Start for enrollment in a preschool program. (Completed)	X				
	X	X	X	X	C8) Develop a local system of accountability and compliance to ensure that high-quality Transitional Independent Living Plans (TILPs) and 90-day Transition Plans are completed, in a timely manner, that address the self-sufficiency outcomes for foster and probation youth exiting the system	CDC; CSS; DMH; DPSS; Probation	Diane Wagner	# of TILPs and 90-day Transition Plans completed in a timely manner that address self-sufficiency goals	11/1/11	Received confirmation that the State will be revising CWS/CMS on February 18, 2012 in order to add the ability to document and track TILP and 90-Transition Plan completion. Also, 90-day Transition Plans will be added as a case document to CWS/CMS. DCFS' Training Section developed a "train-the-trainer" training to help CSWs develop quality TILPs. Also working to add TILP outcomes as MAPP goals for managers. (Completed)			X	X	
	X	X	X	X	C9) Explore the feasibility of amending Group Home and Foster Family Agency contracts to incorporate the four self-sufficiency goals in guiding services currently provided, including an analysis of any potential additional funding needs	CEO; Probation	Karen Richardson	Feasibility analysis of caregiver contract amendment	11/1/11	Proposed Group Home and Foster Family Agency contract language reflecting self-sufficiency goals was drafted and submitted to DCFS' Acting Director for approval. After County Counsel's review, all revised amendments will be submitted along with a corresponding Board letter for approval by the Board of Supervisors in February 2012. (Completed)	X	X	X	X	
				X	C10) In collaboration with CSS, develop and implement a referral process to link current and former system youth, ages 14 and older, with internship, volunteer and/or employment opportunities	CSS; Probation	Harvey Kawasaki	# of current and former system youth referred by CSS	11/1/11	On October 15, 2011 a referral system plan was developed between CSS and DCFS that connects foster youth with employment opportunities available through CSS' WIA subcontractors. The plan is targeted to begin by November 30, 2011, focusing first on TAY placed in DCFS/Probation housing programs. (Completed)			X	X	X

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency

Progress Report Date: 1/20/12

LEAD DEPT/ AGENCY	PERMANENCY/ HOUSING SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING EDUCATION CAREER/WORKFORCE READINESS					COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	AGES 0-5 AGES 6-11 AGES 12-17 AGES 18-21 AGES 22-24				
	SELF-SUFFICIENCY OUTCOME AREAS										CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED				
(D) DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH (DMH)		X				DCFS; Library; Parks/Rec; Probation	Terri Boykins	Increased # of TAY using outpatient mental health services	11/1/11	Client advisory groups were initiated for the first time in the following 3 non-clinical agencies: My Friend's Place, Jeff Griffith Center and Los Angeles Youth Network. Groups have been modeled after the successful program implemented at Step Up on Second, an agency located in Santa Monica. Technical assistance will continue to be provided to these agencies and additional sites may be added in the coming months. (Completed)				X	X
	X	X	X	X		N/A	Terri Boykins	# and scope of substance abuse services delivered in each TAY drop-in center	11/1/11	Executed work agreements with 4 TAY drop-in centers willing to implement Seeking Safety for TAY ages 16-25 years old: My Friend's Place, Pacific Clinics Hope Center, Jeff Griffith Center and Daniel's Place. Trained a total of 15 center staff on how to implement the model in July 2011 and 12 DMH system navigators on the model in order to provide referrals and connections to this service. Implementation of Seeking Safety began in August 2011 across all 4 sites. Planning to expand the model to an additional 2 agencies (Traveler's Aid Society of Los Angeles and People Assisting the Homeless) by 2012. (Completed)				X	X
		X				DCFS; Probation	Terri Boykins	# of cross-trainings held with DCFS, DMH and Probation staff	11/1/11	All DMH and Probation camp staff at Camp Gonzalez were trained on how to access support services for youth leaving camp placement. Between April and July 2011, 64 DMH and 275 Probation staff participated in a 96-hour training program on Adapted Dialectical Behavioral Therapy offered to staff from 5 probation camps (Dorothy Kirby Center, Onizuka, Rockey, Scott and Scudder). In June 2011, a training on how to effectively engage youth in order to facilitate change was conducted for 20 hall/camp DPOs and mental health staff. Additionally, in October 2011, a training on mental health linkages, referrals and youth engagement took place at Camp Rockey for Probation, DCFS and DMH staff. (Completed)	X	X	X	X	
		X				Probation	Lori Willis	# of youth utilizing aftercare mental health services; # of youth receiving case management services post-release	1/1/11	Obtained Board of Supervisors' approval on June 7, 2011 to hire 27 DMH staff to provide community-based aftercare services Countywide. Received approval from CEO Classification and Compensation section to proceed on June 23, 2011. All 27 DMH staff are hired and are currently being trained or processed into the Department. Aftercare services will begin by January 2012. (Completed)				X	X
		X				Probation	Lori Willis	Participation of mental health staff in assessment and MDT meetings	1/1/11	All youth in juvenile halls are screened prior to camp placement and all open mental health cases in camp are assessed by mental health staff. Primary mental health clinicians or DMH camp navigators are participating in all MDTs held at camps. Consultation and planning services will be enhanced as DMH aftercare staff are trained. Probation is developing a tracking system to report the number of MDT meetings and participants. (Completed)				X	X
	X	X				DCFS; Probation	Sam Chan	# of specialized trainings offered to foster and relative caregivers	11/1/11	Implemented 1,150 specialized trainings for approximately 5,000 participants, most of whom were foster and relative caregivers. Trainings were delivered through 17 local community college Foster & Kinship Care Education programs on topics including identifying depression and other mental health issues in children, parenting children with special needs, and appropriate early intervention strategies. Implemented a pre-service training on effective parenting strategies for approximately 300 prospective resource and/or adoptive parents. DCFS' Kinship Section trained 350 kinship caregivers on utilizing regional centers for eligible children/youth. DMH, DCFS and the LA Chancellor's Office are partnering on how to incorporate self-sufficiency into future trainings. (Completed)	X	X	X	X	
		X	X	X		DCFS; OCC	Sam Chan	# of trainings held	11/1/11	Conducted approximately 120 trainings for over 2,000 mental health service providers, DCFS staff, and early care/education providers. Trainings topics included brain development, attachment and trauma, Strengthening Families' protective factors, and parenting strategies. Currently developing additional trainings targeting early care/education providers. (Completed)	X				

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency Progress Report

Progress Report Date: 1/20/12

LEAD DEPT/ AGENCY	PERMANENCY/ HOUSING SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING EDUCATION CAREER/WORKFORCE READINESS					COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	AGES 0-5 AGES 6-11 AGES 12-17 AGES 18-21 AGES 22-24				
	SELF-SUFFICIENCY OUTCOME AREAS										ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY				
(E) DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION		X	X	X	E1) Create partnerships with local community-based organizations, colleges and universities to provide support services for the Department of Parks and Recreation's Youth Worker program, which promotes healthy personal, social, academic and career development	CSS; DCFS; LACOE; Library; Probation	Mika Yamamoto	# of partnerships created	7/30/11	Partnered with seven organizations (El Camino College, St. Francis College, Boys and Girls Club, Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, County Library and a non-profit agency) to implement a career readiness/education conference for system youth and Youth Worker program applicants. (Completed)			X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	E2) In at least one of the Department's service areas with high numbers of DCFS/Probation youth, ages 14 and older, pilot an enhanced version of the Youth Worker program resulting from the partnerships created in Activity E1 above	CSS; DCFS; LACOE; Library; Probation	Mika Yamamoto	# of enhanced Youth Worker programs implemented	11/1/11	Implemented a career/workforce readiness and education conference for over 60 system youth between the ages of 14-18 in South Los Angeles at the Watts/Willowbrook Girls and Boys Club on October 15, 2011. Offered educational workshops, connections to employment resources, educational advising and exposed youth to motivational speakers. (Completed)			X	X	
		X	X	X	E3) With the Public Library and Office of Child Care, convene a forum with after-school program providers to identify opportunities to increase the enrollment of system youth in educationally-enriching activities during non-school hours	CEO; DCFS; LACOE; Library; OCC; Probation	Mika Yamamoto	After-school program provider forum held	7/30/11	Implemented a forum in Service Planning Area 6 on October 26, 2011. Representatives from 11 afterschool agencies that provide services Countywide attended and began brainstorming strategies to increase the number of system youth in their programs. Group committed to convening on an on-going basis to implement strategies in partnership with DCFS and Probation. Next meeting will take place in January 2012. (Completed)		X	X		
(F) DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES (DPSS)		X	X	X	F1) Develop and implement a referral protocol that connects the children of CalWORKs/Cal-Learn participants who are under the supervision of DCFS and/or Probation with licensed early education programs	DCFS; OCC; Probation	Jackie Mizell-Burt/ Leticia Colchado	Referral protocol to connect Cal WORKS/Cal-Learn participants with early education programs	11/1/11	DPSS GAIN services workers are following a protocol for referring eligible CALWORKs participants to an appropriate Child Care Resource and Referral agency that provides them with information about available licensed early care/education programs. Partnered with the Office of Child Care to enhance this referral protocol by mailing all CALWORKs participants, including those exempt from CalWORKs work requirements, materials that promote the importance of child development and enrollment in early education programs. Materials are being finalized and a pilot mailing targeting the city of Long Beach will take place by April 2012. An evaluation of these efforts is also being planned. (Completed)	X				
	X	X	X	X	F2) Link, where appropriate, current and former DCFS/Probation youth with CalWORKs/Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) services to help them achieve economic stability	DCFS; Probation	Jackie Mizell-Burt/ Sherri Cheatham	# of current and former DCFS/Probation youth using CalWORKs/GAIN services	11/1/11	DCFS youth are being linked to CalWORKs/GAIN and all other DPSS services that they may qualify for through a special GR restructuring pilot program implemented in two DCFS offices located in Pomona and Compton. An eligibility screening tool has been developed and CSWs from those two DCFS offices are now screening all TAY 30 days prior to their exit. (Completed)			X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	F3) Assist eligible TAY obtain the economic support they are entitled to by providing automatic Medi-Cal coverage for one year after exiting the system and helping with the redetermination process, facilitating their CalFresh applications, connecting homeless TAY to the General Relief (GR) Housing Subsidy Program, customizing job preparation, and providing GR participants with criminal record expunging, transportation, SSI advocacy, and Cal-Learn assistance	DCFS; Probation	Isabelle Maggio/ Maria Del Valle	# of TAY accessing these services	11/1/11	Initiated a General Relief (GR) restructuring pilot that connects DCFS youth to all DPSS services that they qualify for by conducting eligibility screenings prior to their exit. This pilot began on June 27, 2011 and is being implemented in two DCFS offices (Pomona and Compton). CSWs were trained on how to complete screenings and are currently screening TAY 30 days prior to exit. DPSS also developed an electronic application that exchanges information with the Probation Department to facilitate issuing Medi-Cal benefits to youth as they leave juvenile camps, since this benefit is suspended for up to 12 months upon camp entry. In these instances, at the time of release, youths' benefits will be automatically restored without requiring a paper application. For youth who were not receiving Medi-Cal benefits before being detained, a Medi-Cal application will be sent to their parents/guardians prior to their release date. Probation is also working with DPSS on the development of an electronic interface that, when completed, will provide data on youth entering all of Probation's juvenile facilities. Probation has hired a staff person who is writing the program that will pull the data required for the interface. In the meantime, an interim process was set up to receive Medi-Cal referrals from camps. As of September 2011, DPOs are manually inputting information in the electronic application and DPSS staff are processing referrals. Approximately 350 youth records have been received so far. (Completed)				X	X
		X		X	F4) Create increased access to internships and skilled job opportunities for TAY participating in GR/General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) through the Self Initiated Program (SIP) process	CSS; DCFS; Probation	Maria Del Valle	# of TAY participating in internships/jobs through the GR/GROW SIP process	11/1/11	Initiated a "Pathways to Success" job club to provide youth ages 18 to 24 who are GROW participants with pre-employment training, career and education planning. Prioritized youth who disclosed they were former foster or probation youth for job club participation and also upgraded the computer system used to identify GROW participants who were former system youth. Initially this job club was implemented at one DPSS OFFICE, BUT WAS EXPANDED TO SIX OTHER OFFICES IN OCTOBER 2011. Also, developed and adopted two new policies - prioritization of GROW participants who were former system youth for referral to the 2011 SYEP and prioritization of former system youth for participation in a GR restructuring pilot project implemented in June 2011. (Completed)				X	X

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											AGES 0-5					AGES 6-11		AGES 12-17		AGES 18-21		AGES 22-24	
LEAD DEPT/ AGENCY	PERMANENCY/ HOUSING SOCIALEMOTIONAL WELL BEING EDUCATION CAREER/WORKFORCE READINESS				ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED												
	SELF-SUFFICIENCY OUTCOME AREAS																						
(G) LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION FOSTER YOUTH SERVICES (FYS)		X	X		G1) Serve as the central hub for providing educational information, referrals, and support to all County departments working with system youth	CEO; CSS; DCFS; DMH; DPSS; Library; OCC; Parks/Rec; Probation	John Keane	Creation of centralized information and referral capacity; # of requests processed	11/1/11	Submitted application for funding for FYs 2011-14 to the CA Department of Education (CDE) on May 27, 2011. Received funding from the CDE on October 15, 2011. Met with key representatives from collaborative County departments to develop referral policies and procedures that establish FYS as a hub for centralized educational information. (Completed)	X	X	X										
		X	X	X	G2) Implement a case management pilot that co-locates Foster Youth Services (FYS) staff in at least five DCFS or Probation regional offices to provide education consultation services during multi-disciplinary team case planning meetings and help implement educational objectives	DCFS; Probation	John Keane	# of regional offices housing FYS staff; # of planning meetings including FYS staff	11/1/11	The case management pilot was initiated in December 2010 in the following DCFS regional offices: Belvedere, Glendora, South County, San Fernando Valley (Chatsworth) and Vermont Corridor. A total of 5 FYS educational consultants provided case management services to approximately 70 youth and participated in MDT meetings as needed. Working to expand the pilot to 2 additional DCFS regional offices (Palmdale and Torrance) and 2 Probation offices. Planning to co-locate 7 FYS counselors at DCFS regional offices and 2 FYS counselors in Probation regional offices during FY 2011-12. (Completed)			X	X									
				X	G3) Increase the capacity and use of FYS tutoring services and resources to serve greater numbers of system youth, ages 10-18, and evaluate the effect of these services on youth academic achievement	DCFS; Library; Probation	John Keane	# of system youth using FYS tutoring services; # with improved academic achievement	11/1/11	During FY 2010-11, approximately 400 youth received FYS tutoring services. Increased the number of youth targeted for tutoring by at least 100 and expanded the age range of youth eligible for tutoring to youth between the ages of 4-21 as part of FYS' application for renewed funding from the CDE. Funding for tutoring services was received October 15, 2011. Selected the following 4 tutoring providers that will receive a one-year contract, starting in November 2011 through June 30, 2012: Educational Tutorial Services, Able Tutoring, Xamaze, and Club Z. (Completed)			X	X									
(H) PUBLIC LIBRARY				X	H1) Develop and implement a hiring policy that gives priority to DCFS/Probation youth who apply for employment in the County Library Page program	DCFS; Probation	Barbara Cuslen	Hiring policy developed; # of system youth serving in Page program	11/1/11	Approved policy and selected the following regional County libraries where Pages will be employed: East Rancho Dominguez (in Compton), Hawthorne, Lancaster, San Gabriel and Live Oak Library (in West Covina). Twenty completed applications were sent to Library regional administrators on July 29, 2011. All applicants were interviewed and five youth were offered Page employment offers. As of September 2011, all 5 youth have begun working as Pages. (Completed)				X	X								
		X		X	H2) Offer unpaid volunteer internship opportunities for DCFS/Probation youth who are interested in volunteering their services, and match these youth with management personnel who can serve as mentors/role models	DCFS; Probation	Barbara Cuslen	# of DCFS/Probation youth participating in Library internship opportunities	11/1/11	Implemented a volunteer pilot for system youth in the following five County libraries: Westlake Library, Woodcrest Library, Hawaiian Gardens Library, Huntington Park Library and West Covina Library. Developed volunteer guidelines and an accompanying application process. Identified library personnel who will serve as supervisors and mentors for youth. Obtained approval from County Library executive management to begin recruiting system youth. Currently partnering with representatives from DCFS and the Probation Department to identify youth who are interested in becoming volunteers. Candidate interviews will take place during January 2012. (Completed)				X	X								

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LEAD DEPT/ AGENCY		SELF-SUFFICIENCY OUTCOME AREAS			ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
(i) OFFICE OF CHILD CARE (OCC)		X	X	X	11) Develop a communications plan that effectively markets the benefits of early care and education and integrates Countywide efforts to increase the enrollment of young DCFS children and the children of DCFS and Probation youth in these programs	CEO; DCFS; DMH; DPSS; LACOE; Parks/Rec; Probation	Kathy Malaske-Samu	Communications plan developed	11/1/11	Developed a communication plan and accompanying sample materials to promote the critical importance of children's first five years of life and how quality child development programs can help families support their children's optimal development. The plan's targeted audience includes employees from various County departments (e.g. DCFS, DMH, DPH, DPSS, Parks and Recreation, and Probation), families receiving County services, and community partners. Working to coordinate County employee focus groups to test materials and obtain feedback. In partnership with Casey Family Programs and DCFS, implemented a Countywide Early Learning Symposium on November 10, 2011 at the USC Davidson Conference Center. Approximately 170 individuals from various County departments, early education programs, and community agencies attended the event, which was a first step towards achieving the communication plan's goals. (Completed)	X																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						

Priority Self-Sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency

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LEAD DEPT/ AGENCY		PERMANENCY/ HOUSING SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING EDUCATION CAREER/WORKFORCE READINESS				ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	COLLABORATIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	POINT PERSON	OPERATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED				
		SELF-SUFFICIENCY OUTCOME AREAS										AGES 0-5	AGES 6-11	AGES 12-17	AGES 18-21	AGES 22-24
(J) PROBATION DEPARTMENT	X	X	X	X	J1) Ensure that the comprehensive assessments conducted on probation youth ordered to suitable placement address applicable self-sufficiency outcome areas	DMH; LACOE	Dave Mitchell	# of youth assessed; # of youth with comprehensive case plan	11/1/11	Developed MDT assessment protocol addressing the self-sufficiency outcome areas which was piloted at Rancho San Antonio Boys Home. Convened staff from all 55 placement providers to begin training them on the MDT assessment and corresponding case planning process in July 2011. A "train-the-trainer" meeting for all Probation Department managers was held on October 24, 2011 and a MDT kick-off conference was held on December 19, 2011 at the California Endowment for 180 probation staff and 120 providers. Issuing a solicitation for letters of interest to identify 4 additional Placement Assessment Center (PAC) operators. Currently, the 2 existing PACs (Boys Republic and Rancho San Antonio) are implementing MDT assessments and serve about 40% of eligible youth. Cross System Assessments, which also address self-sufficiency outcomes, are completed for the remaining 60% of placement youth until the PAC expansion occurs. (Completed)			X	X		
		X			J2) Work with DMH to determine what types of referral policies, service delivery strategies and partnerships are needed to improve youth's access to mental health support services	DMH	Sharon Harada	List of necessary policies, strategies and partnerships	11/1/11	DMH, in collaboration with Probation, has developed a Countywide Juvenile Justice Transition Aftercare Services Program that includes developing a mental health case plan in Transition MDTs, connecting youth to permanent mental health providers in the community for aftercare services, tracking this information in the youth's file, and better coordinating families' needs with mental health providers' services. All 27 DMH aftercare staff have been hired and are currently being trained or processed into the Department. (Completed)			X	X	X	
		X	X	X	J3) Work with the CEO to hold at least two employment and resource fairs for ex-offenders/probation youth to connect them to career training, jobs, health/mental health services, education, social services, and record expunging services	CEO; CSS; DMH; DPSS; LACOE; Library; Parks/Rec	Sharon Harada	# of fairs held; # of youth trained or hired	11/1/11	A total of 18 employment and resource fairs have been implemented in Monrovia/Duarte, Florence/Firestone, Pacoima and the Harbor Gateway area. Approximately 2,118 probation youth ages 13-24 attended and were connected to over 80 employers and 300 service providers. After the first job fairs were implemented, 25 youth were employed as a direct result. Calculating the additional number of probation youth employed. (Completed)			X	X	X	
	X	X	X	X	J4) Enhance the Department's camp-to-community transition program by including a more robust family engagement component before youth are released, and by providing parents with the support they need to help their youth succeed in the community and avoid reentry	CEO; CSS; DMH; LACOE	Sharon Harada	# of families engaged prior to release of youth from camp	11/1/11	Using grant funding secured from the Department of Justice, the Gang Violence Reduction Initiative continues implementing a family engagement pilot targeting 130 families residing in the communities of Monrovia/Duarte, Florence/Firestone, Pacoima and the Harbor Gateway area. Approximately 65 families are currently receiving clinical services such as Functional Family Therapy and participating in trainings to help them support probation youth transitioning back to their communities. A Juvenile Re-Entry Council has been formed to continue developing additional family engagement strategies and integrating them into the Probation Department's transition planning. (Completed)			X			
	X	X	X	X	J5) Develop housing, education, and career plans for suitable placement youth to ensure that, prior to leaving foster care, youth have a stable place to live, are enrolled in school/career preparation programs or are employed	CDC; CSS; LACOE	Dave Mitchell	# of youth in permanent housing, postsecondary programs, and/or employed	11/1/11	Developed a process for holding an exit MDT meeting and a corresponding case plan that addresses the self-sufficiency outcome areas for all youth leaving group home care. Case-carrying DPOs and all 55 suitable placement providers have begun trainings on corresponding procedures as of July 2011, and approximately 300 Probation Department staff and providers attended a MDT kick-off conference on December 19, 2011. Probation's YDS staff will continue completing exit MDTs for youth ages 17.9 or older and will incorporate the new protocol in their transition planning activities. (Completed)			X	X		
		X	X		J6) Expand to one additional court the Dual Status Project successfully piloted in Pasadena, which provides integrated assessments, case planning, and case management to youth with concurrent open dependency and delinquency cases	DCFS	Sharon Harada	# of additional youth served through project expansion	11/1/11	Expanded the Dual Status Project to the Eastlake Juvenile Court, serving 3 DCFS offices. Efforts to continue expanding this project to juvenile courts in 5 additional locations (Compton, Inglewood, Kenyon, Long Beach, and Los Padrinos) are underway. Cross-training for DCFS and Probation staff serving youth at these additional courts concluded on October 17th and implementation will begin once the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Courts issues the order to do so. (Completed)			X			
		X			J7) Develop and implement in five probation camps an integrated cognitive behavioral treatment model to improve the overall social and emotional well-being of camp youth	DMH	Felicia Cotton	# of incidents reported at pilot sites pre-ITM vs. post-ITM implementation	11/1/11	Implemented the Integrated Treatment Model (ITM) at four juvenile camps (Onizuka, Rocky, Scott and Scudder) and at one closed placement facility (Dorothy Kirby Center) as of August 2011. Youth have successfully completed a 10-week treatment cycle, and youth councils have been established at each site to offer youth opportunities to practice newly learned social and leadership skills. Co-facilitated focus groups that provide support for DMH and Probation staff implementing the ITM and also reinforce treatment fidelity are also underway at each site. (Completed)			X	X		

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	SELF-SUFFICIENCY OUTCOME AREAS										ACTIVITIES FOR LEAD DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	CHILDREN/YOUTH AFFECTED				
(K) LOS ANGELES HOUSING SERVICES AUTHORITY (LAHSA)	X					K1) Help connect qualified families of DCFS and/or Probation children/youth who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless to the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) in order to provide housing support and improve their ability to be reunified with their children/youth	CEO/DCFS/Probation	Rhonda Johnson	# of homeless and at-risk families connected to HPRP	11/1/11	All HPRP funds have been committed and there is no capacity to serve additional families. However, the Family Unification Program (FUP), administered by DCFS' Family Preservation Unit and HACO LA, is a comparable program for families with inadequate housing that is a primary factor causing either the separation or imminent separation of their children from their care (or is delaying the discharge of their children from out-of-home care). Improved coordination between HACO LA and DCFS by instituting the dissemination of a weekly HACO LA report that accurately reflects the number of FUP vouchers is now available. DCFS has committed to referring all 36 families that are on the Mason Court housing waitlist for FUP vouchers and will schedule presentations at DCFS regional offices to recruit additional applicants. DCFS and the CEO will continue to explore additional strategies that can be used to increase the number of families using FUP vouchers. (Completed)				X	X
	X					K2) As part of the Homeless Prevention Initiative, issue and administer an RFP for serving homeless TAY or TAY at risk of becoming homeless in Supervisorial Districts 1 and 5	CDC; CEO	Beth Stokes/ Helen Lee	Performance-based RFP issued	3/31/11	Released the RFP on May 27, 2011 and 12 proposals were received. Two-year contracts with the agencies selected, First Place for Youth and Pacific Clinics, were fully executed and were effective as of November 1, 2011. A total of 80 TAY who are homeless or are at risk of being homeless will obtain permanent housing through this RFP. (Completed)				X	X
	X					K3) Identify best-practice housing models in other jurisdictions for TAY and incorporate these practices into local program design elements	CEO	Rhonda Johnson	Incorporation of best practices in LAHSA RFPs	11/1/11	Completed a review of 6 TAY housing models located in California, Illinois, New York and Washington. Identified best practices relevant to the following program components: housing type, staff-to-client ratio, approach to permanent housing placement and employment support services. Additionally, the Child Welfare Initiative (CWI) has identified the following best practice components for TAY: developing a comprehensive Individualized Service Plan; creating a safety net; and providing services focused on achievable outcomes. Development of the next LAHSA RFP for TAY that will be released, the Independent Living Program RFP, will begin in 2012. Best practices identified by LAHSA and the CWI will be incorporated into that RFP and will also be incentivized as part of the proposal quality review and scoring process. (Completed)				X	X
	X					K4) Collaborate with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) to inventory the support services that are either in their development pipeline or are currently operational in housing developments for TAY	CEO	Lisa Snyder	Inventory of support services in HACLA TAY housing projects	11/1/11	Completed an inventory of all LAHSA-funded projects that currently serve TAY, which consist of 7 emergency housing shelters, 25 transitional housing projects and 2 permanent supportive housing projects. Cumulatively, these projects provide 577 beds for TAY. Also identified 13 TAY permanent supportive housing projects funded by LAHSA and/or HACLA that are in development that will provide a projected 234 additional beds for TAY in the coming two years. The inventory includes a description of support services rendered per each type of housing project, the number of youth beds available per each program, youth housing outcomes, and also maps the distribution of youth beds and LAHSA-funded housing programs for TAY by supervisorial district. (Completed)				X	X
(L) DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS (DCA)	X			X		L1) Partner with credit reporting agencies to check the credit history of all foster youth by their 16th birthday and resolve identity theft problems for any youth who are identified as victims	DCFS	Kirk Shelton	# of youth whose identity theft problems were resolved	11/1/11	Submitted names of 2,110 foster youth from DCFS to credit reporting agencies. Partnered with the California Office of Privacy Protection to fix inaccurate information and resolve identity theft issues by contacting creditors and collection agencies. Successfully identified and resolved identity theft issues for 104 foster youth. Will complete another credit history check for a new cohort of foster and probation youth in 2012. (Completed)			X	X	
	X				X	L2) Develop a procedure with DCFS and Probation to identify TAY that could benefit from attending DCA consumer presentations specifically tailored for TAY on issues such as landlord/tenant issues, identity theft, credit, car purchases, contracts and other consumer issues	DCFS; Probation	Kirk Shelton	Creation of a process for referring youth	11/1/11	Developed a procedure that enables the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) to provide consumer education workshops to DCFS and Probation TAY, ages 18-24, at transitional housing sites, and for TAY ages 16-18 through DCFS teen clubs and at 3 selected Probation group homes (Boys Republic, Eggleston Youth Center, and Rancho San Antonio). DCA has also dedicated a direct line telephone number to give TAY and DCFS/Probation staff access to a Consumer Affairs investigator to address issues affecting young adults. DCA held a pilot workshop for 40 TAY on identity theft and consumer issues in June 2011. Five additional workshops have been implemented or are scheduled to be implemented. (Completed)			X	X	



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

August 7, 2013

To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

FIFTH STATUS REPORT ON THE CHILD CARE POLICY FRAMEWORK

On March 29, 2011, the Board adopted the updated Child Care Policy Framework and a series of related recommendations. As a part of that action, the Office of Child Care, located within the Service Integration Branch of the Chief Executive Office, was directed to provide status reports in July and January of each year through 2013. This is the fifth status report on the implementation of the Child Care Policy Framework, covering the period of January 1 through June 30, 2013, and is organized by the goals of the Child Care Policy Framework.

Goal 1. The quality of child development services in Los Angeles County will be improved as the Steps to Excellence Project (STEP) is expanded and support services to STEP participants are intensified.

The Office of Child Care is currently operating two child care quality rating and improvement systems (QRIS), with the goal of merging into a single countywide QRIS on or before December 2015. The STEP QRIS is currently funded by Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP); the County has a multi-year grant agreement with LAUP totaling \$7,682,101 and runs through August 2016. The Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) QRIS is a Federal grant awarded to the California Department of Education (CDE) to support local QRIS activities in 16 California counties. The County has a multi-year grant agreement with the CDE that shall not exceed \$5,149,500 and runs through December 2015.

STEP

STEP, our original and locally developed QRIS, currently has 245 licensed child care and development programs enrolled. Participation in STEP is open to both child care and development centers and family child care homes serving children from birth to five years of age. During the 2012-13 Fiscal Year (FY), a total of 158 programs received quality ratings. In addition, 58 Quality Improvement Grants (QI Grants), totaling \$268,000, were distributed.

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QI Grants are issued to STEP participants following their preliminary rating. This rating, which establishes the program's baseline quality, identifies areas where resources are needed to improve program quality. Despite being capped at just under \$5,000, these grants have proven to be an important recruitment tool and have supported the participation of programs that have less access to resources, including but not limited to family child care homes. Financial incentives linked directly to quality standards are considered to be a core element of QRIS.

STEP is currently one of seven projects that comprises the LAUP Early Childhood Workforce Consortium. STEP was originally projected to rate 200 programs per year. Program infrastructure took some time to build to scale up to the required volume of ratings and the majority of STEP ratings were completed in the second half of FY 2012-13. LAUP's FY 2013-14 budget development occurred early in 2013 and resulted in capped growth during the remainder of FY 2012-13 and into the future FY to maintain budgetary compliance. Approximately 32 programs scheduled for a rating were deferred to FY 2013-14. STEP has been funded to rate a total of 125 programs in FY 2013-14.

STEP received national recognition this year and was featured in the American Institutes for Research's forthcoming *Local Quality Improvement Efforts & Outcomes Descriptive Study* as one of three¹ QRIS in the state of California that had all six elements typical of a robust QRIS.

RTT- ELC

Between February through May of 2013, the Office of Child Care recruited 184 child care and development programs to participate in the RTT-ELC QRIS. While this slightly exceeds our target of 175 participants, we do anticipate that there will be some attrition over the next two years. We are very pleased to report that 48 of these programs have received a preliminary rating, using the RTT-ELC rating matrix and quality standards. The remaining RTT-ELC participants will receive their preliminary rating in 2013-14.

We recently learned that CDE has been awarded a supplemental grant of \$22,427,065, bringing the Federal funding for California's RTT-ELC to 75 percent of the original request. As this award was announced at the end of June 2013, CDE has not yet finalized how the additional funds will be used.

The Office of Child Care will present at a September meeting of the Children and Families Well-Being Cluster that will include information on the quality of child care and development programs participating in both STEP and RTT-ELC.

Goal 2. Local, State and Federal policies and budgets will strengthen the child development infrastructure and support the expansion of high quality child development services that integrate family support, health, mental health and other relevant services into their operations.

¹ The other two QRIS systems are located in El Dorado and Nevada counties.

The Policy Roundtable for Child Care, in conjunction with the Child Care Planning Committee, has carefully monitored State and Federal legislation and budget issues. Upon vetting those issues at Roundtable meetings, recommendations for pursuits of positions have been submitted to the Intergovernmental and External Affairs unit within the Chief Executive Office. As a result of these requests, the County has taken support positions on AB 274 (Bonilla) and SB 192 (Liu). If passed, AB 274 will create greater efficiencies in the administration of subsidized child care and development services, particularly in the Alternative Payment (AP) Program. SB 192 is a major bill and includes the following components:

- Replaces "Child care and development with "early learning and education support" in the Education Code;
- Streamlines the contracting process for center based services to young children;
- Ensures that parents receive consumer education related to selecting high quality early learning services; and
- Augments the methodology for determining priorities for funding early learning services with Academic Performance Index rankings.

Governor Jerry Brown signed California's budget package for 2013-14 on June 27, 2013. This budget is intended to launch a multi-year balanced plan that reduces California's debt while maintaining a \$1.1 billion reserve. The \$96.3 billion State spending plan emphasizes restructuring K-12 education finance, reinvesting in State universities, and expanding Medi-Cal coverage under Federal health care reform. Additionally, the budget package demonstrates modest efforts at re-investing in safety net programs, which have experienced cumulative reductions over the past four years. The Policy Roundtable for Child Care Policy Brief on the State budget is attached (Attachment I), providing additional details.

In general, the child care and development sector applauded the Governor's decisions to backfill reductions resulting from sequestration and to pass on the proposal to realign child care services to the counties. There was less support for his maintaining parent-fees for State Preschool programs. CDE is preparing a report to the Legislature on the amount of parent fees collected from low-income families whose children are enrolled in this largely part-day, part-year program, the administrative costs of determining eligibility, collecting and tracking those fees, as well as the number of low-income children who lose access to this program because parents are unable to pay the fees.

At the Federal level, the Roundtable is monitoring the President's proposal to expand early care and education services and the proposed regulations governing the Child Care and Development Fund. These regulations would introduce a new and much needed emphasis on health and safety standards, quality, and consumer education to the Federal Child Care and Development Block Grant.

Goal 3. County departments will work collaboratively with each other and community partners to maximize the utilization of available resources, support quality improvements and promote the delivery of integrated services for children and their families.

“Dads and Family Day” took place on May 18, 2013, sponsored by the Los Angeles County Office of Education-Head Start, LAUP, First 5 LA and the Office of Child Care. Over 500 people attended including dads, moms and a good number of young children. This event, which took place on Los Angeles Unified School District's Robert F. Kennedy campus, was designed to welcome dads and promote their involvement in the early education of their young children. In addition to music, soccer clinics and building activities, the children and families left with information on services, backpacks, books and music CDs.

Goal 4. County departments will work collaboratively with the Los Angeles County Office of Education, key school districts and community-based child development services to integrate services, thereby supporting effective:

- Articulation between child development and kindergarten;
- Design of developmentally appropriate transitional kindergarten programs; and
- Identification and utilization of new or nontraditional funding.

The Policy Roundtable for Child Care has been monitoring funding decisions related to Head Start and Early Head Start programs. Funding for Head Start and Early Head Start programs has become increasingly important as California's investment in child care and development services has been reduced. The first cohort of Head Start and Early Head Start funded agencies was announced on July 2, 2013, but funding amounts are not yet available.

Stable funding for child care and development services is critical to both maintaining services and to efforts to build innovative collaborations. The Roundtable will continue to monitor these developments.

Goal 5. The Chief Executive Office (CEO) will facilitate County department efforts to work internally, across departments and with community partners, to integrate the Strengthening Families Approach (SFA) and Protective Factors into their work with children, families, and communities; and engage families in high quality child development services. The CEO, with assistance from the Center for the Study of Social Policy and key local partners, will establish a multidisciplinary SFA learning community designed to support ongoing professional development and SFA projects that are underway or emerging in County departments.

The Strengthening Families Learning Community (SFLC), comprised of County departments and community-based organizations serving young children and their families, has established a quarterly meeting schedule during which it is engaged in a process of examining our collective practices that contribute to overall child and family well-being. The SFLC is looking forward to new collaborative opportunities with First 5 LA and each of the 14 Best Start Communities. On June 26, 2013, the Commission adopted the “Building Stronger Families” framework. This framework builds on the SFA and incorporates the Protective Factors into the core family results. At their September 12, 2013 meeting, the Commission will consider how this framework will guide funding decisions for Countywide activities.

Each Supervisor
August 7, 2013
Page 5

A copy of the most recent Learning Community Newsletter, with an article featuring First 5 LA's renewed commitment to its Best Start communities, is attached (Attachment II) for your information.

Conclusion

Significant strides have been made in expanding child care quality rating and improvement systems in Los Angeles County. While progress in the other goal areas has been more incremental, those accomplishments have been made during a period of fiscal crisis. I am confident that as "reinvestments are made to safety net programs," the work initiated under the Child Care Policy Framework will inform and expedite the integration of services in this County.

Should your staff have any questions regarding this report, they can contact Antonia Jiménez at (213) 974-7365 or via e-mail at ajimenez@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:AJ
KMS:km

Attachments



County of Los Angeles
Policy Roundtable for Child Care

Policy Brief

ATTACHMENT I



July 5, 2013

**GOVERNOR SIGNS 2013-14 STATE BUDGET
CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

Overview

On June 27, 2013, Governor Jerry Brown signed the budget package for 2013-14, which reflects a multiyear balanced plan, continues to reduce budgetary debt and maintains a \$1.1 billion reserve. The budget is comprised of a \$96.3 State spending plan with an emphasis on restructuring K-12 education finance, reinvesting in state universities, and expanding Medi-Cal coverage under Federal health care reform. Additionally, the budget package demonstrates modest efforts at re-investing in safety net programs, which have experienced cumulative reductions over the past four years.¹

The remainder of this policy brief summarizes the 2013-14 State budget plan as it pertains to child care and development services.

Child Care and Development Budget Items

Overall, the budget for 2013-14 begins to restore funding for child care and development services. According to Early Edge California, the budget reflects a \$50.8 million reinvestment - \$15.8 million to backfill sequestration reductions, \$25.0 million increase in State Preschool, and \$10.0 million to expand non-CalWORKs child care.² Specifically, the budget package:

- Backfills an estimated \$15.8 million of Federal sequestration reductions with a like amount of General Fund as follows: \$11.1 million for General Child Development programs, \$4.2 million for Alternative Payment (AP) programs and \$0.6 million for Migrant Day Care.³
- Allows for shifting any unspent CalWORKs Stage 2 funds to CalWORKs Stage 3 if funding is insufficient to support the estimated caseload.⁴
- Re-appropriates \$10.0 million in unspent child care program funds from 2012-13 to 2013-14 to establish additional slots in the following programs: \$7.0 million for General Child Development programs, \$2.6 million for AP programs, and \$0.4 million for Migrant Day Care.⁵

The Governor exercised his line item veto authority by:

- Eliminating the appropriation that would have required the California Department of Education to develop a preschool plan based on a Federal proposal for universal preschool. In part, the Governor's veto message declared "The state does not have sufficient funds to support a universal preschool, and the Federal government has not adopted funding for implementation of a universal preschool program involving states."⁶
- Reducing the budget for State Preschool by \$50.0 million from \$511.9 million to \$506.9 million. The Governor's veto message stated "With this reduction, funding will be \$25.0 million higher in the budget year, providing for increased preschool slots consistent with the \$25.0 million augmentation I sustained for increased child care slots. While I am sustaining this augmentation for the preschool program, I am doing so on a one-time basis. Providing this increase on an ongoing basis would reduce future resources available for K-14 programs."⁷

Table 1 provides budget detail for items relating to child care and development services.

Table 1. Comparison between 2012-13 Budget and Budget Act of 2013			
Programs	2012-13 Budget ^{8,9}	Budget Act of 2013 ¹⁰	Variance
Proposition 98 General Fund			
State Preschool	\$481,003,000	\$506,965,000	\$25,962,000 ¹¹
Non-Proposition 98 General Fund			
General Child Development	\$464,913,000	476,938,000	\$12,025,000
Migrant Child Care	\$26,056,000	26,742,000	\$686,000
Alternative Payment (AP) Program	\$174,031,000	\$178,501,000	\$4,470,000
CalWORKs Stage 2 (AP)	\$419,286,000	\$357,797,000	(\$61,489,000)
CalWORKs Stage 3 (AP)	\$148,425,000	\$197,526,000	\$49,101,000
Resource and Referral Programs	\$18,688,000	\$18,687,000	(\$1,000)
Handicap Allowance	\$1,452,000	\$1,457,000	\$5,000
CA Child Care Initiative	\$225,000	\$225,000	No change
Quality Improvement	\$49,490,000	\$48,063,000	(\$1,427,000)
Local Planning Councils	\$3,319,000	\$3,319,000	No change
Accounts Payable	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	No change
Non-Proposition 98 Sub-total	\$1,309,885,000	\$1,313,255,000	\$3,370,000
Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	No change
Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)	\$0	\$0	No change
Growth	\$0		
Proposition 98 and non-Proposition 98 Sub-total	\$1,795,888,000	\$1,825,220,000	\$29,332,000
Department of Social Services¹²			
CalWORKs Stage 1	\$408,579,000	\$332,800,000	(\$75,779,000)
Learning Supports			
After School and Education Safety Program	\$547,025,000	\$546,965,000	(\$60,000)
21 st Century Community Learning Centers	\$143,949,000 ¹³	\$132,395,000 ¹⁴	(\$11,554,000)
Cal-SAFE Child Care	\$24,778,000	Among categorical programs eliminated due to education finance reform.	
Pregnant Minor Program	\$13,327,000		
Learning Supports Totals	\$729,079,000		(\$11,614,000)
California Community Colleges^{15, 16}			
Cal-WORKs Child Care – Community Colleges	\$9,188,000	\$9,188,000	
Campus Child Care Tax Bailout	\$3,350,000	\$3,350,000 ¹⁷	
State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Development	\$162,000 ¹⁸		
Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Fund	\$11,913,000 ¹⁹	\$11,339,000 ²⁰	-\$365,000

Funding for Quality Activities

The budget also reflects a \$1.4 million decrease in funding for quality improvement activities. Budget language indicates that funding will be “allocated to meet the Federal requirements to improve quality of child care and be used in accordance with the approved California plan for the Federal Child Care and Development Fund.”²¹ The current plan for Federal fiscal year 2012-13 lists 26 quality-funded activities.²² The California Department of Education/Child Development Division expects to complete recommended revisions to the plan in the near future, which will then be submitted for approval to the Department of Finance before funds are expended as required by law.

State Medi-Cal Expansion and Programmatic Shifts

The budget adopts a state-based approach for expanding Medi-Cal under the Federal Affordable Care Act without any realignment of human service programs (such as child care and development) to counties. The California State Budget 2013-14 Summary notes the “costs,

risks and uncertainties” associated with increasing health coverage and improving access to certain services such as mental health care and substance abuse treatment. As such, funding currently allocated to counties for indigent populations may shift to human service programs based on a county by county formula as the state assumes more responsibility for meeting their health care needs.²³

For More Information on 2013-14 Budget Bills: Impact on Children and Families

A number of organizations have developed overviews and analyses of the 2013-14 Budget as it impacts health and human services for children and families, including child care and development as follows:

California Budget Project	www.cbp.org
California Child Care Resource and Referral Network	www.rrnetwork.org
Child Development Policy Institute	www.cdpi.net
Early Edge California	www.earlyedgecalifornia.org
Legislative Analyst's Office	www.lao.ca.gov
ZERO TO THREE – Western Office	www.zerotothree.org/about-us/western-office.html

Questions or comments relating to this policy brief may be referred to Michele Sartell, Los Angeles County Office of Child Care within the Service Integration Branch of the Chief Executive Office, by e-mail at msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov or by telephone at (213) 974-5187.

Endnotes:

¹ Brown, Jr. E.G. *California State Budget 2013-14*. State of California, June 27, 2013.

² Information retrieved on July 2, 2013 from Early Edge California website at <http://www.earlyedgecalifornia.org/our-issues/budget/>.

³ AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; item 6110-194-0890, Provision 5.

⁴ AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; item 6110-194-0001, Provision 8(f).

⁵ AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; item 6110-490.

⁶ AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; see line item veto for 6110-001—0001(9) with respect to Provision 21.

⁷ AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; see line item veto for 6110-196-0001.

⁸ AB 1464, Chapter 21: 2012-13 Budget, Approved: June 27, 2012; 6110-196-0001.

⁹ AB 1497, Chapter 29: Budget Act of 2012, Approved: June 27, 2012; 6110-194-0001.

¹⁰ AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; items 6110-194-0001, 6110-196-0001.

¹¹ Expected to provide an additional 6,200 new slots for preschool age children in part-day programs. Of this amount, up to \$5,000,000 is available for the family literacy supplemental grant provided to California State Preschool Programs pursuant to Education Code Section 8238.4.

¹² *California Child Care Programs Local Assistance –All Funds – 2013-14 Governor's Budget*.

¹³ Of the funding allocation to 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CLCs) in the 2012-13 budget, \$22,382,000 was one-time carryover from prior years payable from the Federal trust fund.

¹⁴ Of the funding allocation to the 21st CLCs, \$10,700,000 is provided in one-time carryover funds to support the existing program.

¹⁵ AB 1497, Chapter 29: Budget Act of 2012, Approved: June 27, 2012; 6870-101-0001(23).

¹⁶ AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; 6870-101-0001(23).

¹⁷ Of the \$332.8 million allocation to CalWORKs Child Care Stage 1. \$53.9 million is for administration.

¹⁸ AB 1464, Chapter 21: 2012-13 Budget, Approved: June 27, 2012; 6110-199-0890.

¹⁹ AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; Item 6110-200-0890. This item is supported with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds.

²⁰ Of the funding for RTT-ELC, \$10,150,000 is available for allocation to the local regional leadership consortia to improve upon or develop quality rating improvement systems.

²¹ AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; Item 6110-194-0001, Provision 1.

²² Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for State and Territory: California – FFY 2012-13. Retrieved on February 4, 2013, from www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/stateplan1213final.pdf.

²³ Brown, Jr. E.G. *California State Budget 2013-14*. State of California, June 27, 2013.



Learning Community Update

Promoting Child and Family Well-being

Summer 2013

Best Start is Alive and Well

On June 26, 2013, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas hosted a special meeting of the First 5 LA Commission focusing specifically on Best Start implementation. **Best Start, a cornerstone of First 5 LA's Strategic Plan for 2009-15, is intended to improve the lives of young children and their families by positively impacting the systems and environments in which they live, learn and play.** Since its adoption in 2010, Commission support for this place-based initiative has appeared to waver and work in some of the Best Start communities seemed to have stalled. As a result, there was a high level of interest in this meeting and attendees included Commissioners, representatives of community-based agencies, County departments, parents, and community stakeholders.

At the close of the meeting, there was a renewed commitment to Best Start and the Commission adopted the **"Building Stronger Families"** framework. This framework represents important refinements to Best Start, including a focus on intermediate outcomes and strategies informed by research and experience to support the relationship between activities and family- and child-level outcomes, achievable within the proposed five to ten years time-frame, promotes active participation of parents and communities in creating change, and allows measurement of progress.

Building Stronger Families Framework

Research by the Center for the Study of Social Policy has shown that families thrive when the Protective Factors are robust in their lives and communities. **Strong families provide the context for children's optimal growth and development.** The *Building Stronger Families* framework incorporates the Protective Factors into the *core family results*:

1. Families demonstrate resilience, parental knowledge and positive relationships that support their children's social and emotional competence.
2. Families participate in positive social networks that provide multiple opportunities for mutual support and leadership development.
3. Families access concrete supports that meet their needs.

Similarly, families thrive in the context of neighborhoods and communities that support parents in raising their children by enhancing their social connections and offering concrete supports and opportunities. Best Start will work in communities to develop the following *core community results*:

1. Neighborhoods and communities establish a common vision and act collectively to improve the policies, services and environments that build family protective factors and influence the availability of concrete services.

Continued on next page

Strengthening Families Learning Community Members

Chief Executive Office
 Child Care Resource Center
 Department of Children and Family Services
 First 5 LA
 Friends of the Family
 Department of Health
 Department of Mental Health
 Department of Parks and Recreation
 Department of Public Health
 Department of Public Social Services
 Los Angeles County Office of Education
 Magnolia Community Initiative
 Policy Roundtable for Child Care
 Probation Department
 Public Library
 In partnership with
 Casey Family Programs

The Protective Factors

*are the foundation of the
 Strengthening Families
 Approach*

- ◆ Parental resilience
- ◆ Social connections
- ◆ Knowledge of parenting and child development
- ◆ Concrete support in times of need
- ◆ Social and emotional competence of children

Research has shown that strong families thrive when the Protective Factors are robust in their lives and communities.

2. Neighborhoods and communities establish and sustain opportunities for families to interact regularly in positive social networks and safe community spaces that encourage social interaction and promote healthy living.
3. Neighborhoods and communities develop and sustain services and supports that meet family needs, including high quality services and opportunities for educational success.

Accountability Framework

First 5 LA will define and use an Accountability framework anchored in the core family and community results in order to ensure that the investment in the *Building Stronger Families* framework is making a positive difference. This Accountability framework includes four levels:

Level One: Population Conditions – Monitoring population-based indicators for Los Angeles County and each of the Best Start communities. While these broad measures such as health status, poverty and environmental conditions are beyond the scope of Best Start, they provide stakeholders with an understanding of the context.

Level Two: Core Results for Communities – Tracking progress toward the core community results and movement toward collective action that contributes to the building of stronger families.

Level Three: Core Results for Families – Tracking progress made in strengthening family capacities, social connections and concrete supports.

Level Four: Performance Measures and Learning – Tracking performance milestones and understanding what was done, who was involved, and what happened.

Implementation Considerations

It is anticipated that under the *Building Stronger Families* framework, First 5 LA will continue to support activities in the areas of parent/community collaboration, organizational capacity building, and policy and systems changes. In addition, a “direct family strengthening services” category may be added to support the *Building Stronger Families* framework. Should funding become available under this new category, specific parameters will be established to guide funding decisions.

Next Steps

Consistent with Board direction, First 5 LA staff will be reporting back in September on three things: 1) an implementation timeline; 2) an initial analysis of community partnership readiness; and 3) a recommended approach to Best Start community plan funding. More information on the results of the June 26th and the upcoming September 12th meetings are available at www.first5LA.org.

Best Start communities:

Central Long Beach
 Metro LA
 Compton
 East Compton
 East Los Angeles (includes City Terrace, Commerce and parts of Monterey Park)
 El Monte
 South El Monte
 Lancaster
 Pacoima
 Palmdale
 Panorama City
 South Los Angeles/Broadway-Manchester
 South Los Angeles/West Athens
 Southeast L.A. County Cities (including Bell, Cudahy, Bell Gardens and Maywood)
 Watts
 Willowbrook
 Wilmington

I now see the goal of Best Start is not a band aid; it's a cure.

- Best Start Parent

Recommended Viewing

THE RAISING OF AMERICA is producing an ensemble of documentaries and multimedia tools linking early child development to a more prosperous and equitable nation. The television documentary for PBS broadcast and the shorter film will be supported by parent guides, discussion guides, handouts, action toolkits and other companion materials. For more information, visit www.first5LA.org or the www.first5LA.org website.

How do We Know if We are Making a Difference?

We are working hard, our hearts are in the right place, yet it is not always easy to answer the question – are we making a difference? Are we working as effectively as we can with children and families? On a good day – we offer a resounding yes... and on the not such a good day we may just duck the question all together.

The California Network of Family Strengthening Networks (CNFSN) confronted this challenge and produced the *Standards for Quality for Family Strengthening & Support*. These Standards are designed to be used by a broad range of programs, and can inform the processes for planning, implementing and assessing the quality of services.

CNFSN devoted 18 months to developing and vetting the standards. This was seen as a strategic investment towards defining and promoting quality practice for organizations working with families. The work paid off and the standards were unanimously approved by the CNFSN membership in 2012. The standards build on the work of the Center for the Study of Social Policy and Family Support America and are organized into the following five sections:

- **Family Centeredness:** Working with a family-centered approach that values and recognizes families as integral to the program.
- **Family Strengthening:** Utilizing a family strengthening approach to support families to be strong, healthy and safe, thereby promoting their optimal development.
- **Embracing Diversity:** Acknowledging and respecting families' diversity, supporting their participation in a diverse society, as well as engaging in ongoing learning and adaption to diversity.
- **Community Building:** Contributing to building a strong and healthy community by facilitating families' social connections, developing their leadership skills, and by collaborating with other programs.
- **Evaluation:** Looking at areas of program strength, as well as areas for further development, in order to guide continuous quality improvement and achieve positive results for families.

Drilling down within these sections, there are 17 standards and each standard has a set of indicators for "minimum quality" and "high quality". The accompanying Program Self-Assessment Tool is designed to be used in reflective processes that asks how the minimum and high quality indicators are met, what potential action items are related to each indicator and, finally, mapping where the program falls on the continuum with respect to each indicator, ranging from "Not yet addressed" to "Meets Minimum and Meets High Quality".

The standards go a long way to connecting theory to practice and also connect practice to the "movement for social change that urges policymakers, service providers, parents and employers to take responsibility for improving the lives of children and families and for ensuring that they get what they need to succeed." For more information on these standards, including certification training opportunities, visit the California Network of Family Strengthening Networks website at www.cnfsn.org.

More Resources

- The Center for the Study of Social Policy recently released *Core Meanings of the Strengthening Families Protective Factors* available at www.cssp.org/reform/strengthening-families/2013/Core-Meanings-of-the-SF-Protective-Factors.pdf, a companion piece to the new *Protective Factors Briefs*, downloadable from www.cssp.org/reform/strengthening-families/2013/SF-All-5-Protective-Factors.pdf. The documents delve deeper into the meaning of each of the Protective Factors.
- The May 2013 edition of the ZERO TO THREE Journal is all about early childhood mental health care and features a strategy to support professionals working with young children and their families across all disciplines. To order, visit www.zerotothree.org.

Affordable Care Act

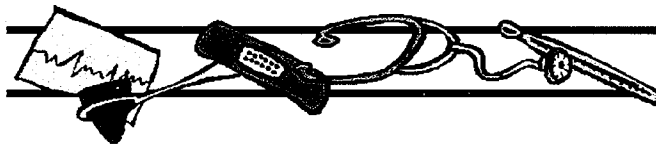
At the June 18, 2013 meeting of the Strengthening Families Learning Community, Karen Bernstein with the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services presented information on local implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Committee members walked away from this presentation with new information and a much deeper appreciation for the administrative challenges confronting the Department of Health Services!

The ACA will provide many families with access to health services, a critically important concrete support that has been out of reach for many. Starting in 2014, Medi-Cal eligibility will expand to all adults under 138 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) who are citizens or legal residents for five years. Children up to 250 percent will be eligible for Medi-Cal (children currently enrolled in Healthy Families are now being transitioned into Medi-Cal). Individuals with income between 133 and 400 percent FPL will be eligible to participate in the Health Benefit Exchange under "Covered California", which will offer different plan levels through existing insurance providers. Subsidies will be based on family size and income.

Additional ACA provisions effective January 1, 2014 will prohibit annual coverage limits, may not exclude adults with pre-existing conditions, will limit waiting periods for coverage to 90 days, and will maintain Medicaid eligibility for foster children aging out of the child welfare system through age 26. Other ACA provisions are already helping families. Parents now receive coverage for their children up to age 26, there is a prohibition on lifetime benefits limits, and insurers may not refuse coverage based on pre-existing conditions in children.

Because the ACA includes expanded benefits for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder services, collaborative efforts between DHS, Public Health and Mental Health are underway. There is much more to come on this issue and we will bring that information as it becomes available.

Covered California is California's new insurance marketplace through which millions of Californians will be able to choose affordable, high quality health coverage. Information on the various health care plans is currently available for review at <http://www.coveredca.com>.



Upcoming Events

The Center for Early Childhood Development, a project of the Los Angeles Child Care Guidance Center, is offering a *Training Opportunity: Core Competency: Brain Development, Attachment and Trauma*—on August 22, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Early interventionists, clinicians, and others who work with children 0-5 are encouraged to attend. Cost to attend is \$109 (\$99 before July 31, 2013). For more information and to register, visit www.eitraining.org.

Grandparents as Parents will be hosting their 11th Annual Professional Conference, "Trauma Informed Care: Through the Lens of Relative Caregivers" on October 21, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Special keynote speaker is Father "Greg" Boyle. Cost to attend is \$80 (\$70 by August 20, 2013). For more information and to register, call (818) 264-0880 or e-mail Carmen Garcia at cgarcia@grandparentsasparents.org.

Your Thoughts

Learning Community Update is a publication of the Office of Child Care located within the Service Integration Branch of the Chief Executive Office. Comments? Send to msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov.